

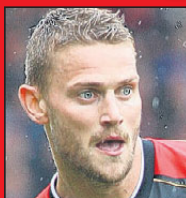
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CHERRIES COME ON STRONG AT BOLTON

Bolton v Bournemouth match report – see page 19



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TON-DERFUL

**Rickie Lambert's
100 Saints
league goals**

**Special eight-page
souvenir special**

See pages 12-19



BELTER: Rickie Lambert, left, watches on as his first-half free kick flies past Stoke keeper Asmir Begovic.

**Old boy
comes
back to
haunt
Saints**

SAINTS 2 STOKE CITY 2

SAINTS were twice pegged back as they were held to a 2-2 St Mary's draw with Stoke.

Though the result made it seven games unbeaten in all competitions for Saints they would have been disappointed only to get a point from a game in which they twice led.

Rickie Lambert gave Saints the lead

from a free kick after six minutes before a frantic period of three goals in six minutes before half time.

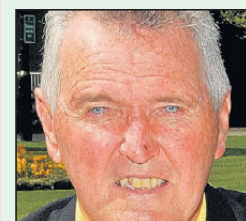
Peter Odemwingie levelled for Stoke before Steven Davis restored Saints' advantage.

However, former Saints striker Peter Crouch equalised and there were no further goals in the second period meaning it finished with a point apiece.



LEVELLER: Peter Crouch celebrates.

TERRY PAINE



**Saints legend's
EXCLUSIVE column**

See page 7

SAINTS



**Sinning Saint who
escaped gallows**

See pages 8-9

SAINTS



**Saints v Pompey:
Where are they now?**

See pages 28-29

SLOPESTYLE



**Morgan reaches
Olympic final**

See page 43

SAINTS v STOKE MATCH REPORT AND REACTION – SEE PAGES 2-5

Saints Spotlight

SAINTS 2 STOKE 2: ODEMWINGIE AND

SAINTS PEGGED VICTORY HOPES



CRYING FOUL: Jose Fonte appeals for a free kick after Adam Lallana is brought down.



JUMP: Jay Rodriguez battles Stoke keeper Asmir Begovic.

SAINTS were twice pegged back as they were held to a 2-2 St Mary's draw with Stoke.

Though the result made it seven games unbeaten in all competitions for Saints they would have been disappointed only to get a point from a game in which they twice led.

Rickie Lambert gave Saints the lead from a free kick after six minutes before a frantic period of three goals in six minutes before half-time.

Peter Odemwingie levelled for Stoke before Steven Davis restored Saints' advantage.

However, former Saints striker Peter Crouch equalised and there were no further goals in the second period meaning it finished with a point apiece.

Saints dominated possession of the ball in the early stages and took the lead after just six minutes.

It came as a result of a free kick awarded just inches outside the left hand side of the area as Charlie Adam handled

Adam Leitch

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CHIEF SPORTS REPORTER

Adam Lallana's attempted cross.

It was a great position for an inswinging free kick and Rickie Lambert stepped up to take it and duly produced an absolute beauty, curling into the opposite top corner to make it 1-0.

Stoke tried to respond quickly and Artur Boruc had to get down smartly to save Peter Odemwingie's low drive from inside the area.

Jay Rodriguez tried his luck from 25 yards but dragged a shot wide of the target.

After that little burst of excitement the game dropped into quite a lull.

Saints were certainly the more comfortable in possession, but Stoke were not just playing the direct style of foot-

ball that many would expect of them, instead mixing it up nicely.

That said the game was very scrappy in the windy conditions at St Mary's and chances were few and far between.

Stoke created a glimmer of an opening on 25 minutes as Jonathan Walters dived full length to meet Erik Pieters' left wing cross but couldn't get much on it and it went well wide.

Saints produced a blistering counter attack two minutes later and it nearly doubled their lead.

Steven Davis won the ball on the edge of his own area and drove forward before feeding it outside to the overlapping Nathaniel Clyne.

Inside the area he opened up



his body for a first time right footed shot across Asmir Begovic but the Stoke dived to his left to save at a comfortable height.

Adam became the first player in the book for a handball that gave Lambert the chance to hit a more central free kick, this time from 25 yards, but on this occasion Begovic was able to field.

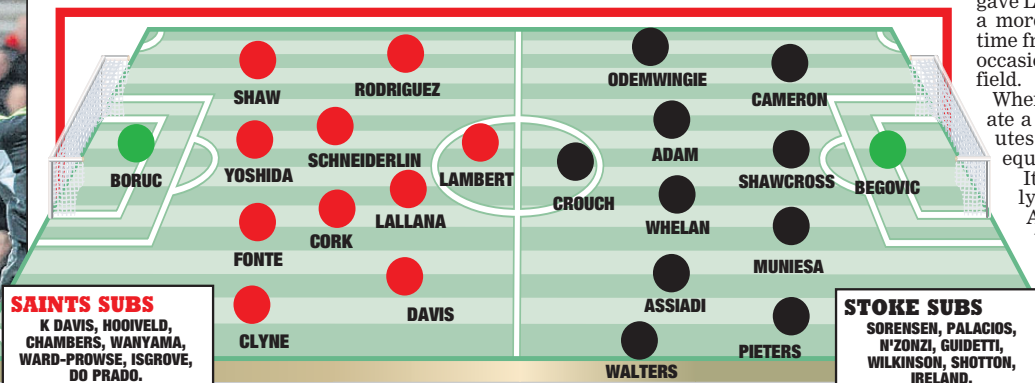
When Stoke finally did create a good chance on 38 minutes they produced an equaliser.

It came from an absolute-fantastic ball from Adam inside his own half who spotted Odemwingie flying between the centre halves and picked him out perfectly with a majestic, curling left footed ball.

Odemwingie stayed cool and from just outside the area finished low past the advancing Boruc for 1-1.

However, it took just three minutes for Saints regain their lead in bizarre fashion.

Saints won a throw in high up the pitch on the right and Clyne threw it back to Steven



TEAM NEWS

MAURICIO Pochettino made two changes from the side who thumped Fulham 3-0 for the visit of Stoke to St Mary's. Both Calum Chambers and Victor Wanyama were doubts heading into the game after

picking up knocks in the win at Craven Cottage. They both dropped to the bench with Nathaniel Clyne and Jack Cork coming into

the side.

Sam Gallagher was missing from the side following the death of his father, meaning that Guly do Prado was the main attacking threat on the bench.

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Saints Spotlight

CROUCH DENY POCH'S MEN MAXIMUM POINTS

BACK AS PETER OUT



ABOVE: Asmir Begovic saves a shot from Nathaniel Clyne.

LEFT: Rickie Lambert celebrates his first-half goal.



Davis. He spun and lobbed in a hopeful first time half volleyed left footed cross that wasn't even particularly well hit but somehow evaded everybody in the area and Begovic's dive to his left too and snuck into the far corner.

Amazingly, the scoring continued as Stoke levelled it up again on 44 minutes.

Adam hit an inswinging right wing corner into the six-yard box, Peter Crouch got ahead of Jose Fonte and Boruc and the ball squirmed over the line and into the net through a

combination of the Stoke man and the Saints keeper.

Those three goals in six minutes made it 2-2 at the break.

Steven Davis tested Begovic with another cross straight after the restart. This time it was a well struck free kick but the Stoke keeper made no mistake and punched it clear.

Davis was at it again on 50 minutes, this time with an arrowed corner from the right that picked out Jay Rodriguez but from 12 yards out he head-kicked downwards and just wide.

Saints had appeals for a

penalty waved away as Lallana's cross appeared to strike Adam on the arm in the area but it was from very close range and with the Stoke man having his arms by his side.

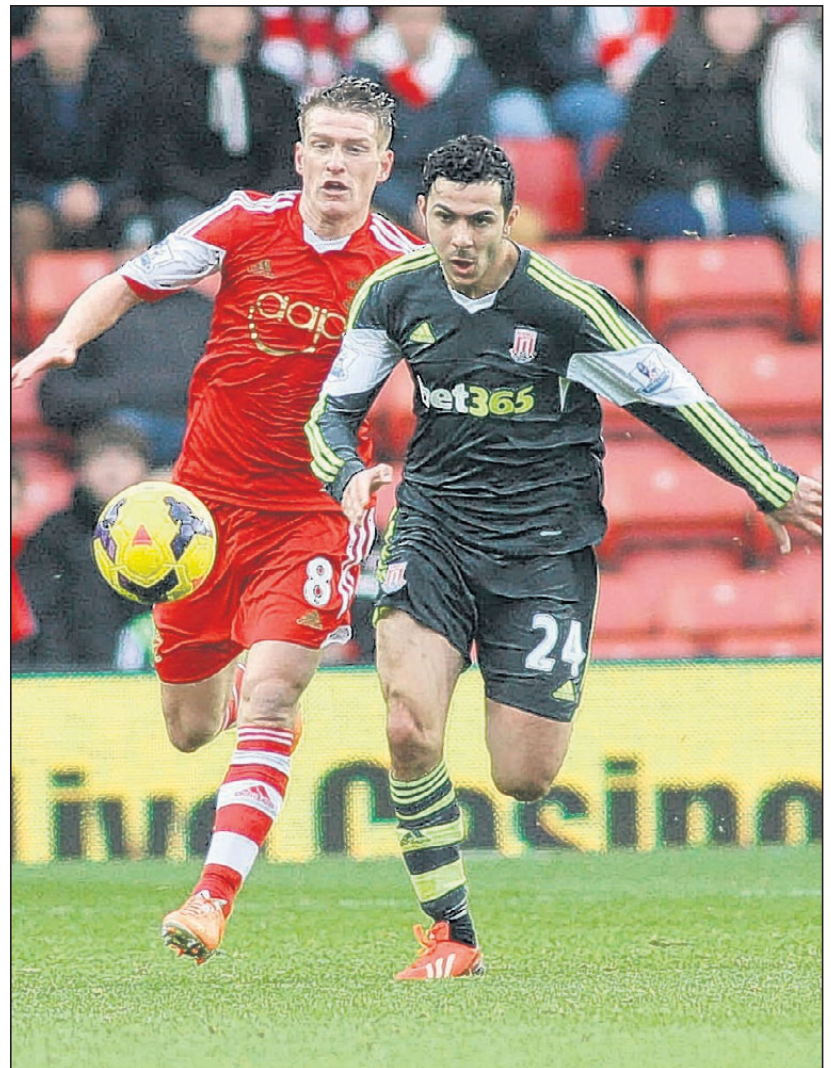
Saints came close as Lambert cushioned a far post header from Davis' free kick back into the path of Jack Cork whose well struck shot flew into the side netting.

Crouch picked up a yellow card for a foul on Morgan Schneiderlin having already had a flare up with Fonte.

The game was trapped in a similar lull to that of first half before the sudden goals explosion.

You got the sense that both sides fancied there might be a winner in it for them and it was a case of who would gamble first to try and get it.

Saints always looked the more likely but, once more, both teams were struggling to find a cutting edge in the final third to create a clear cut chance.



FOOT RACE: Steven Davis and Stoke's Oussama Assaidi.

Stoke were the first to try and affect things with a change as Steven N'Zonzi replaced Adam on 79 minutes.

Saints responded a minute later with Calum Chambers coming on for Clyne.

Walters was the next booked for a foul before Schneiderlin had a chance at the far post.

Chambers lifted a ball into the far post from the right that found the French midfielder in space but he opted to shoot first time and put it wide.

Stoke made another switch with John Guidetti coming on for Oussama Assaidi.

Odemwingie picked up a late booking for a cynical trip on Luke Shaw just before the fourth official held up the board to show three minutes of stoppage time for someone to try and bag what would surely be a winning goal.

However, there were no further chances and no further goals and Saints had to settle for a point.



ABOVE: Peter Odemwingie celebrates making it 1-1.

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SAINTS SEASON 2013/14 STATS - SEE PAGE 10

Saints Spotlight



We weren't aggressive enough, says Pochettino

MAURICIO Pochettino declared himself disappointed but not frustrated as Saints were held to a 2-2 draw by Stoke.

The Saints boss, pictured above, felt his side, who twice led in the game at St Mary's, were good value for the win at St Mary's but still praised the performance of his players.

He said: "I wouldn't say it was frustrating, I would say it was disappointing."

"I think over the full 90 minutes we deserved to win the game but in football you can't deserve to win a game, you need to show you can win the game and it wasn't to be."

Rickie Lambert fired in a brilliant free kick after six minutes to give Saints the lead but they had to settle for a draw.

"It was a great goal but after we got that first goal we weren't aggressive enough to go on and get the second that would have put the game to bed," said Pochettino.

"We conceded a soft goal, it was 1-1, then we got the lead again and it was 2-1 but we weren't able to hold onto that lead and conceded a second goal and perhaps we needed a bit more aggressiveness to maintain the lead."

"In the second half we practically nullified Stoke and were creating all the chances but in the end it just wasn't to be."

CITY SLIPPER: ARTUR'S



POACHER: Peter Crouch, centre, capitalises on Artur Boruc's weak punch to level for Stoke.

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Saints Spotlight

STOKE NIGHTMARE



SCRAMBLE: Rickie Lambert tries to beat Stoke keeper Asmir Begovic to the ball.

Gordon Simpson

gordon.simpson@dailyecho.co.uk

SPORTS REPORTER

ARTUR BORUC will be glad to see the back of Stoke City this season.

The Saints keeper already had bad memories of facing Mark Hughes' side this term, and he added to them here.

Boruc made a complete mess of a corner late in the first-half, attempting a weak punch that allowed Peter Crouch to steal in ahead of him and bundle the ball home to make it 2-2.

It was hard to tell whether the ex-Saints striker had got the last touch, or whether Boruc had actually pushed the ball over the line.

Either way, it was the latest in an increasing list of high-profile errors from the keeper this season.

Boruc was infamously beaten by a clearance from his opposite number, Asmir Begovic, when these two teams met at the Britannia Stadium earlier this season.

There were mitigating circumstances that day, with the swirling wind having a major impact in carrying the ball over his head.

But it was hardly a fine demonstration of keeping.

Boruc promised after that match, which ended in a 1-1 draw, that he would earn back the two points that he believed he had cost Saints.



CELEBRATION: Steven Davis after putting Saints 2-1 up.

While he has made important contributions since then, such as his first-half performance at Fulham last week, he has also been responsible for costing the team in other games.

His bizarre decision to attempt, on multiple occasions, to turn Arsenal's Olivier Giroud in his own area back-fired spectacularly at the Emirates Stadium in November.

It was a baffling mistake that undermined an excellent Saints performance and gave the Gunners a lead they would not relinquish.

While he was able to poke fun at himself afterwards, posting a picture on Instagram of the incident next to a photo of Johan Cruyff performing one

of his famous turns, it is not a good idea to be the butt of the joke too often.

Boruc was also partly at fault for Sunderland's equaliser in the 2-2 draw at the Stadium of Light last month, failing to keep out a well-struck Adam Johnson shot that was pretty much straight at him.

The Polish international stopper did a lot to bring some much-needed stability to the troublesome goalkeeping position last season, and he does surely have much to offer Saints.

But he must start cutting out these silly mistakes, otherwise he might find that it is an area of the team that will undergo some change again in the summer.



HAZARD FIRES BLUES TO SUMMIT

EDEN Hazard's hat-trick fired Chelsea to the Barclays Premier League summit as Jose Mourinho's troops took full advantage of costly slip-ups by Arsenal and Manchester City.

With erstwhile leaders Arsenal sinking to a miserable 5-1 loss at Liverpool in the lunchtime kick-off and City held 0-0 at Norwich, Chelsea moved a point clear at the top of the pile courtesy of a comfortable 3-0 win over Newcastle at Stamford Bridge.

Hazard, pictured above, this week dubbed the best young player in the world by his manager, went a long way to living up to that billing as he swept home a fine opener from the edge of the box on 27 minutes.

The Belgian made it two on 34 minutes, converting smartly after a superb one-two in the area with Samuel Eto'o. The former Lille playmaker celebrated his treble in the second half, converting from the spot after Mapou Yanga-Mbiwa brought down Eto'o.

While Chelsea appear to be hitting their straps in the title race, the opposite is true of Manuel Pellegrini's City.

After Monday's damaging 1-0 defeat at home to Chelsea, City were expected to get back to their free-scoring ways at Carrow Road but came up short as Chris Hughton's hosts earned a notable shut-out.

Away from the title battle, the action was just as heated at the foot of the table with Crystal Palace, West Ham and Hull each claiming key wins in their fight to beat the drop.

No fewer than three debutants were on the scoresheet as Palace ran out 3-1 winners at home to West Brom, who now find themselves inside the bottom three.

Tom Ince, signed from Blackpool on

deadline day, marked his Eagles bow with a goal after 15 minutes, while Joe Ledley, freshly arrived from Celtic, made it two just before the half-hour.

Another debutant on show needed just 60 seconds to announce his arrival in English football as West Brom's Thievy Bifouma, on loan from Espanyol, scored after entering the action as a half-time substitute.

Palace made the points safe in the 69th minute when Marouane Chamakh won and scored their third from the penalty spot, although there was more than a little doubt over the award of the spot-kick, with Baggies goalkeeper Ben Foster appearing to connect with the ball as he challenged the Moroccan.

Sam Allardyce's Hammers set aside the controversy over their failed bid to overturn Andy Carroll's recent red card as they claimed an eye-catching 2-0 win at Aston Villa.

Kevin Nolan scored twice for the visitors, the first coming within a minute of the restart and the second just two minutes later as West Ham moved out of the relegation zone.

Hull wrapped up a double over Sunderland as goals from new boys Shane Long and Nikica Jelavic saw them to a 2-0 win at the Stadium of Light.

The Black Cats were not helped by the fourth-minute dismissal of Wes Brown for a professional foul on Long, who then compounded Sunderland's misery by opening the scoring on 16 minutes.

The incident severely dented Sunderland's aspirations and it was no surprise when Hull doubled their lead in the second half through Jelavic, his first for the Tigers.

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FLOODS: Fordingbridge Sports Club was just one of the local grounds under water on Saturday.

Picture: Paul Collins Order no: 17942145.

Reds boss plays it cool

MANAGER Brendan Rodgers insisted Liverpool are still not in the title race despite their 5-1 demolition of deposed leaders Arsenal at Anfield.

Four goals in the first 20 minutes – the first coming after just 52 seconds – left the Gunners reeling. Defender Martin Skrtel scored the first two, with forwards Raheem Sterling and Daniel Sturridge following his lead.

Sterling added his second just after half-time and although Mikel Arteta pulled one back from the penalty spot with 20 minutes to go the match was well over as a contest.

Victory, Liverpool's first in the league over Arsenal since 2007, closed the gap between them in fourth place and the Gunners to five points and they were six off the lead at the end of the day after Chelsea went top.

With Jose Mourinho's side and third-placed Manchester City still to come to Anfield, there is plenty of opportunity to do further damage to the teams above them but Rodgers played down Liverpool's chances.

"You only need to look at our squad really, that can be an indication," said the Reds boss.

"The objective has always been to finish as high as we can but you also have to look at the other teams around you. You only have to look at what Arsenal had on the bench today.

"I want to be in a position where we can really challenge for the title here and the players have been incredible – we just hope to continue with that development and see where it takes us.

"There is no doubt we have been outstanding for a big part of the season. We have had one or two off days but in the main our consistency and quality of our game has been incredible.

"We will keep focused and keep our concentration."

Liverpool's display was one of their best for several years and Rodgers was full of praise for what he considered an all-round excellent team effort.

"We were brilliant today, it was a wonderful performance in such a prestigious game between the two teams," Rodgers said.

"The performance level was absolutely out of this world and I am very pleased as it is another marker for us that we are getting better and improving all the time.

"These games are normally very tight games and Liverpool haven't beaten them in the league since 2007 – that is a long time – but I felt we could have gone on and scored more, but I was pleased with how we managed the game.

"The crowd were so excited and they were really wanting us to go for the throat but it was also important we could manage the game as well and that was a pleasing aspect."



BRENDAN RODGERS

Early start too late to help this season

EASTLEIGH boss Richard Hill has welcomed an earlier start date for the Conference North and South Divisions next season.

At the recent extraordinary general meeting in Telford, a vote was passed for the 2014/15 campaign to kick off a week earlier on Saturday, August 9 – the same as the Conference Premier, writes **WENDY GEE**.

Hill, though, can't help thinking that if that decision had been made for this season, it would have helped ease the horrific fixture backlog clubs now face in this freakishly wet winter.

The return of wind and heavy rain overnight once again washed out the vast majority of this afternoon's non-League programme – including the Spitfires' Skril Conference South home game against Maidenhead.

There is no chance of the regular Conference season being extended, leaving title-chasing Eastleigh with 20 league games to squeeze in by April 26.

And, with the rain showing no immediate sign of abating, clubs are bracing themselves for the prospect of playing Saturday-Tuesday-Thursday-Saturday at least once before the end of the campaign – something Hill feels could have been avoided by starting the season earlier.

He also believes the league could make life easier by leaving two Saturdays clear for the early rounds of the FA Cup and Trophy, thus allowing clubs to bring forward league fixtures if they crash out of those competi-

tions early. He suggested: "They should leave two Saturdays free for each competition. If you get knocked out in the first round, the likelihood is that someone else in your league has also been knocked out and you can bring a league game forward.

"At the moment if you do get through your first Cup and Trophy games, you're two league games behind straight away."

Today's wet-weather postponement, coupled with the calling off of last Tuesday's home game against Dover, means Eastleigh are still 11 points adrift of league leaders Bromley with three games in hand.

Hill, though, says it's no use fretting about something that can't be changed and is just grateful Eastleigh have been able to train regularly.

He said: "We're fortunate we've been able to train on Astroturf. Wellington (sports ground) have been decent accommodating us and we've also used Wide Lane and our own Astroturf pitch.

"It's one of the reasons we took the decision to go to daytime training. Securing facilities in the day is far easier than when they're all booked up at night.

"The weather is what it is. No one's to blame because no one can affect what falls out of the sky.

"Rather than getting concerned about it, I'm better off putting my thought process into keeping the play-

ers as fit and healthy as they can be for when we do play.

"My greatest concern is that, if teams playing our direct opposition, like Bromley, have to play two or even three times a week towards the end of the season, they might not be able to field their strongest sides due to injury, suspension etc and would be forced to play youth players.

"I suggested requesting the transfer deadline be extended, but our secretary Ray Murphy said that will never happen."

AFC Totton's home game against Redditch was also postponed in the Calor Southern Premier Division, as were the bulk of Sydenhams Wessex and Hampshire Premier League fixtures.

● Eastleigh have strengthened their squad by signing striker Ben Wright on a month's loan from Skril Conference Premier outfit Salisbury City.

Though still only 25, Wright has a wealth of higher league experience with Peterborough United, Crawley Town, Braintree and Forest Green Rovers.

He started his career with his home town club Basingstoke Town and recently finished a month's loan back at The Camrose Ground.

Eastleigh boss Richard Hill said: "It was brought to my attention that Ben was available to go out on loan and, once again, I'd like to thank (chairman) Stewart Donald for allowing me to do it."



RICHARD HILL

Paine's World

The Saints legend's **EXCLUSIVE** column on all things football

THE North East has always been a fervent footballing hotbed, with some of England's biggest and best-supported clubs hailing from these climes.

For one reason or another, though, the area has never been blessed with the success that perhaps the supporters deserve.

Against this backdrop of constant disappointment and underperformance, Newcastle United has been a beacon of light.

The Magpies showed in the mid-90s that success is possible and, even as recently as 2012, looked a team that was on the up. So where has it all gone wrong?

On Saturday, they were simply out-fought, out-thought and out-played by bitter rivals Sunderland in what was one of the poorest showings from a Newcastle side in recent times.

The boos that echoed across St James' Park after the final whistle were a clear sign of the discontent in the terraces.

Those venting their frustration were not doing so solely on the back of one pathetic performance, but rather because they have seemingly lost faith with those in charge of their beloved club.

One supporter was pushed so close to the brink that he made his way onto the field in a bid to return his season ticket.

He may have been the first, but he might not be the last, with numbers down on season ticket renewals for next season. The breaking point came after Newcastle sold off their best player, Yohan Cabaye, without so much as a hint at a replacement.

It is fair to say that the appointment of Joe Kinnear, pictured below, as director of football proved an unadulterated failure.

The former Wimbledon and Newcastle manager stood down from his high-profile post on Tuesday, but by then the damage had been done.

He left the club in chaos. He is perhaps the first director of football in the history of the Premier League that has failed to bring in one single player during his reign.

Two loan signings is all he has to show for eight months of a £60,000 monthly salary. For Mike Ashley, the astute businessman that appointed him, it's been very bad business. Of course, little is known about the mandate that Kinnear was given from his close accomplice.

One thing is for certain, though; Newcastle have receded since that ill-fated radio interview that announced the second coming of Kinnear on Tyneside.

Newcastle's best player, dubbed "Yohan Kebab" by the



ASHLEY'S TOON ARMY IN RETREAT

bumbling Kinnear, has since departed, leaving a gaping hole in the middle of the park.

The manner in which it was handled was quite incredible.

Two days prior to the sale, Alan Pardew had warned: "We need to bring someone in, for sure."

"We can't lose someone of his quality and not replace him. That would leave us vulnerable."

Then how was he able to leave without a suitable replacement?

Newcastle had known for months that they weren't going to be able to hang onto Cabaye if a Champions League club came in for him.

While rumours abound that

neither Kinnear nor Ashley were there as their prized asset was flogged off to the highest bidder, the question must be asked just what is going on at St James' Park? In a season of transition for a number of the bigger clubs, Newcastle had the chance to stake a claim for European football.

Despite having staved off relegation last season, the first-team remained capable of competing in the top-half, as has been showcased by their victories over Chelsea, Tottenham and Manchester United.

All they needed was some investment in the squad.

Instead, what they got was a £2m loan signing of Loic Remy from relegated Queens Park Rangers.

A good signing he may be, but

BREAKING POINT: The sale of Yohan Cabaye, left, angered Newcastle fans.

hardly one that would push the club to the verge of European football.

Instead, they remain stagnant, with little signs of growth in the near future. And what of those left behind in the dressing room? Having just seen their best player pack it in for greener pastures, maybe they will begin to ponder just where the club is going.

If something isn't done soon, all of Pardew's good work will have been for naught. It is the current owner, though, that will have provoked the ire of the Newcastle supporters.

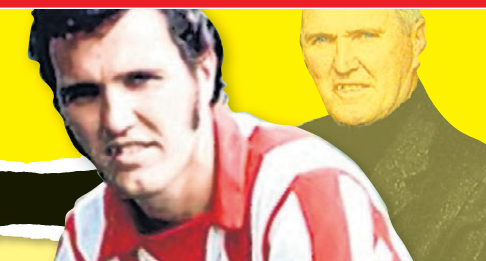
Ashley has had a fractured relationship with them since his arrival, despite leading the club to fifth place following the contested appointment of Pardew.

What has become clear, though, is that he remains hesitant to invest in something without clear signs of a return.

Astute business it may be, but this is a football club and it should be viewed as such.

Kinnear is gone, but it is what Ashley does now that will determine whether his ownership is deemed a success or not.

It has been 59 long years since their last major trophy and, as things currently stand, it seems like that wait is going to go on for their long-suffering fans.



Blame falls on Swans' boss

SWANSEA City dropped a bombshell on Tuesday night, as news broke that the club had decided to part company with manager Michael Laudrup.

The Dane, pictured above, joined the club at the beginning of the 2012/13 season and led them to ninth place in the Premier League, their highest ever finish in the top division's current format.

He also managed to guide the club to its first piece of silverware, the Capital One Cup.

Signings such as Ki Sung-yueng, Pablo Hernandez, Chico Flores, Jonathan de Guzman and Michu became key starters for the side and Laudrup stayed true to the Swans' footballing philosophy, sparked by Paulo Sousa and Roberto Martinez, continued by Brendan Rodgers, and developed in the cup-winning season.

The Dane entered the current campaign with Europa League football, a star signing in Wilfried Bony and an optimistic fan base at his side, but things took a turn for the worse.

The footballing world reeled in shock when chairman Huw Jenkins decided to cut ties with the Barcelona legend, but, upon closer inspection, it appears very much the correct choice.

Swansea's insipid 2-0 loss to West Ham United last weekend was indicative of a poor season.

Against ten men, they totalled 65 per cent of possession, struggled to create clear-cut chances and remained unwilling to shoot for much of the game.

A familiar story occurred at Villa Park in December, where the Swans totalled an astonishing 73 per cent of possession but never looked like they would score the winner in a 1-1 draw.

Over the last 38 games, they haven't secured enough points at all, and that cannot be put solely down to injury,

luck or anything else.

From March 2013 to now, they've been pretty substandard in most areas.

Michu's injury hasn't helped at all and the Europa League schedule has been gruelling.

They've played ten extra games already and have flown to Switzerland, Russia, Romania, Sweden and Spain. Napoli, in southern Italy, is up next.

However, that doesn't account for the way the Swans took their foot off the pedal after winning the Capital One Cup last season.

Some fans argue that Laudrup's alleged laid-back approach has always been the Dane's mantra, and, while it wasn't a problem when they were winning, he has become the scapegoat now that the club is underperforming.

His laissez-faire attitude may have been accepted while the reflection of the cup stood gleaming in Jenkins' eyes, but 12 months on, and with barren results aplenty, it stinks of a lack of motivation.

Laudrup took a two-day trip to Paris after the West Ham loss and gave his players time off. For the chairman, that was unfathomable.

Perhaps expectations reached unprecedented, unmanageable levels.

Perhaps Laudrup is the scapegoat for poor player performances under the same methods used last season.

Whatever the case, Swansea have gone stale.

Hovering just two points above the relegation zone at the start of February was never going to fly well at a club where new standards have been set.

Whether it was right to sack Laudrup will be hotly debated among fans, journalists and pundits for the foreseeable future, but Swansea have never set a culture for sacking managers unnecessarily.

In a bad season, something had to give. Unfortunately for Laudrup, it's normally the manager who bites the bullet.



Saints Spotlight

Pardew is facing a tough task

FORMER Newcastle skipper Rob Lee has warned Alan Pardew he faces a major fight to hold on to his best players if owner Mike Ashley does not back him with hard cash this summer.

Pardew this week revealed he wants to make up to four major signings as he prepares for the new campaign having lost star man Yohan Cabaye to Paris St Germain last month.

The £19million-plus the Magpies banked for the France international remains untouched after since-departed director of football Joe Kinnear failed to find a replacement before the transfer deadline.

However, Lee believes it could take far more than that for Pardew, pictured, to rebuild a squad which may yet be further depleted during the closed-season.

Asked if four big signings would be enough, the 48-year-old former midfielder, an ambassador for the Budweiser Open Trials campaign, which will provide amateur footballers with the opportunity to play at Wembley in front of professional scouts, told Press Association Sport: "It's a start. Is it enough? No, probably not."



"Is Loic Remy going to sign for us? I am sure after the season he has had - he's only on loan - he will have a lot of options and, if he sees Newcastle selling Cabaye, their best player, what's he going to think?"

"It's not as though he's going to have a shortage of offers, so my instinct would say he won't sign, so you have got to replace him; there are rumours that Papiss Cisse is not happy and is going to go; Shola Ameobi is out of contract; Cheick Tiote, is he going to be happy with Cabaye going? I think there will be a lot of people after him."

"You have to keep these people happy - Fabricio Coloccini again, is he going to stay? There were rumours he wanted to go back anyway."

"Again, it comes down to when you start selling players, your best players that are left are not going to be happy."

Lee was not surprised to see Cabaye leave the club after he was unsettled by Arsenal's bid in August, but was astonished that a replacement had not been lined up before PSG were given the green light.

He said: "Everybody knew it was coming. That's fine, but you have to have somebody lined up to replace him. He's your best player."

"He went very, very cheaply as well - if you look at Juan Mata going for £37million, he's a bargain, he's an absolute bargain for PSG."

"We had to have someone lined up to replace him straight away, but typical Newcastle, we didn't."

SINNING SAINT WHO

JOHN McKie was the Saint who turned into a sinner. Here, Duncan Holley - one of Saints' official Hagiology historians - tells the Scot's remarkable story, and hopes there are relatives still in the Southampton area who can shed some more light on his life ...

On Tuesday morning, October the 23rd 1906, an ex-Southampton footballer walked into Cumnock Police station in Ayrshire.

According to the Cumnock Chronicle, he "quietly" informed the on-duty Sergeant that he had "just cut his wife's throat and he had called to give himself up".

Thirty-three-year-old John McKie - who away from football preferred to spell his surname McCoy - had played for Southampton St Marys during the 1896-97 season and, while in the town, had met and married one Mary Rose C. Byrne.

The marriage produced four sons, Alexander, born in Kent in 1900 (by then his father was playing for Dartford), identical twins Gerald and Terence born in Southampton in 1902, and finally Adrian, who arrived two years later while the family were living at 7 Anglesea Road in Southampton.

(The three youngest boys were baptised in St Edmunds Catholic Church just off the Inner Avenue).

Not a great deal is known about the early days of the marriage but, due to the nature of John's itinerant career as a professional footballer, the couple were often apart.

The 1901 census, for instance, has Mary back in Southampton living with her brother, Gerald, while John was in Wiltshire while on the books of Salisbury City.

Accident

John had been born in April 1873, in Ayrshire and, when aged 16, had, while working in a pit, been kicked in the forehead by a horse.

That was an accident that 17 years later may have saved him from the gallows.

John enlisted in June, 1893 at Leith Fort and then, in September the following year, was posted to 15th Company, Royal Artillery based at Fareham.

Like many young soldiers of the day, he got into quite a lot of trouble - with the bottle and the fairer sex being the problem.

He was charged with being "drunk and disorderly" soon after his arrival but not before he had spent 21 days in Gosport Hospital being treated for mild gonorrhoea.

He was put on trial for misconduct but then went AWOL, leading to a charge of desertion.

He was sentenced to spend a year in military prison but that was reduced to 26 days and then, not surprisingly, on the 22nd



SPORTSMAN: The young John McKie was a gifted footballer.

'Penal servitude' for footballer after he killed his wife

December, 1894 he was discharged. However there was one silver-lined cloud on the horizon.

While with the RA, John, a right-back, had represented them at football and had been good enough to win county honours.

The Royal Artillery were then top shots in local and amateur football circles and frequently played fixtures against teams from the Southampton area, particularly forging special links with Freemantle, to whom they often loaned players. That explains why,

some nine months after leaving the Army in disgrace, John found himself on the books of the Magpies and groundsman at their Shirley Ground.

Freemantle were then St Marys' main rivals in the struggle to become Southampton's premier football club.

John had an excellent season for the Magpies, virtually ever-present he particularly shone when the two clubs met in an English Cup fixture in October, 1895.

His performance on the day was

described in the Southampton Times as "quite brilliant" despite Freemantle losing 5-1.

St Marys were now going from strength to strength and the following season prized John away from the ailing Freemantle with an offer of a far from paltry £3 a week.

He duly made his first team bow v Chatham in the Southern League on September 19th, 1896 and also played in six of the seven FA Cup-ties that season as Saints reached the 2nd Round proper before going out to Newton Heath, as Manchester United were then known.

Life was looking up and it can safely be assumed around this stage he met and married Mary, four years his junior.

Mary came from the same St Marys district where the team were based.

Mary - the daughter of a John Byrne, a superintendent at the Ordnance Survey offices - was described at the trial some 10 years later as being "tall and graceful in her movements, quiet in her demeanour and nice looking".

It was also observed at the trial, perhaps tellingly, that "the prevailing opinion is that she was socially of a much higher class than her husband".

Apart from the birth of the four boys and the fact that John's career later took him to Fulham, Chatham, Cowes, Dartford and Salisbury, before ending up back at Freemantle, late in 1901, not much is known on how the partnership evolved.

Employment

That is until 1906 when John, having hung up his boots and returned to Ayrshire, managed to find employment in a Cronberry pit where his father, Francis, worked.

He duly sent for his family to come and join him to live in his father's small mining cottage, at 243 Front Row, Cronberry.

It was there in the front room, just off the kitchen, where Mary, on the Tuesday morning, had her throat cut while sleeping with Adrian who was, "lying within her left arm" with "his hair matted and his little nightdress bespattered with the life's blood of his mother".

There were no signs of a struggle, but according to the case for the Crown during the trial "the razor must have been applied at least twice, and with great violence".

What had driven John McKie to such a desperate act?

Unfortunately he chose not to take the stand during his trial, his defence team instead stating "that at the time when the accused is alleged to have committed the crime charged against him he was insane, and was subject to and acted under the influence of a maniacal paroxysm and sudden uncontrollable insane impulse which deprived him of his senses".

The prisoner, as he was referred

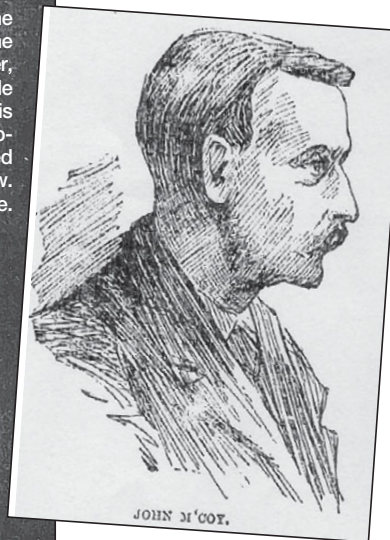
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Saints Spotlight

ESCAPED GALLOWS



PORTRAIT OF A KILLER: The McKie family (minus one of the twins) taken in 1905. Alexander, the eldest, is on the left while the baby on Mary's knee is Adrian. It is thought the photograph was deliberately mutilated after a family row. Right: a drawing of McKie.



the war" – but he would have been too young for WW1 and too old for WW2.

Meanwhile, in the same 1911 census, John McKie (or McCoy as he was referred to during the trial) was listed as being in Peterhead prison and bizarrely states that he is married (had he forgotten he had murdered his wife or had he got remarried and had there been another woman on the scene all the time?), but after that his trail goes factually cold.

In family folklore, however, the flame flickers.

Adrian, now in the States, married and had two children, one of whom, Adrianne, is still alive in 2014, aged 74.

She was not told of the murder until her father had passed away in 1971.

Her daughter, Lisa, has since conducted a lot of research and found a mystery photograph of her grandfather, Adrian, as a teenager (circa early 1920s).

What happened

To his right is an unidentified man, aged around 50.

No one knows who he is or where the photo was taken, but Adrian's wife, Anna (Lisa's grandmother) once told her that John did try to visit his sons in the States as he knew he was dying.

There is no hard evidence to suggest this did happen, but there is something about the face of the older man that is familiar.

Could Adrian have forgiven his father's dreadful crime and posed with him for this photograph?

If anyone in Southampton knows anything about the Byrne family, or what happened to Alexander, please e mail Duncan@duncanholley.co.uk

Saints star Pat Parker mourned

PAT Parker, a Saints star of the 1950s, has passed away at the age of 84.

The 6ft 1in Devonshire-born centre-half was a modest man who declared himself "very lucky to come out of village football" at the age of 20 to play for Plymouth Argyle and Newton Abbot having completed his national service in the RAF.

But Saints boss Sid Cann thought otherwise and signed Parker in August 1951.

The new recruit shared digs in the groundsman's cottage at the County Ground with young cricketer Mike Barnard, who had just signed for Portsmouth, and often joined him for an evening session in the nets.

Parker made his Saints debut almost immediately but his career suffered a setback when he twice broke his right leg in friendlies, one of them back at Newton Abbot.

And it wasn't until Ted Bates took over in October 1955 that the fit-again Parker became a Southampton regular.



He was ever-present in 1956-57, a season in which Saints boasted the best defensive record in Division 3 South.

After leaving The Dell in May 1959, Parker spent a season at Poole Town before joining Cowes Sports where he remained in various capacities into his 50s.

Living in Southampton and working as a production controller at Racal's Hythe factory, he travelled over to Cowes for home games and Island derbies on the ferry and reportedly cherished fonder memories of those days than his eight seasons in League football.

Despite problems with his knees, he took up a new sport, bowls, at 80 and in August 2012 turned up at Waterstone's in West Quay to greet Terry Paine who was signing copies of his book *Suited and Booted*.

Parker, a grandfather and much-loved father to Steve and Chris, passed away at Southampton General Hospital on January 28.

The funeral service will be held next Tuesday (February 11, 12 noon) at St Boniface Catholic Church in Shirley Road.

Family flowers only are requested but donations can be made, payable to the Alzheimer's Society, care of RC Payne & Son, Shirley.

to, was sketched for the benefit of the Chronicle readers and was described as "a well set up man, with fair curly hair and a slight moustache".

Speaking on his behalf were his two brothers, Terence and Francis, his aunt, Sarah McKinlay, and his father, Francis.

All of them spoke well of John and the affection he apparently had for his wife.

But it seems, since returning to Scotland, he had started drinking heavily and such were his moods that even his own father was fearful of him when drunk.

Mary's father-in-law, who slept in the cottage's other bedroom, had risen and left for his work at the pit at 7am on the morning of the murder and testified that "he had spoken to the deceased before his departure, when she cried out to him, as she lay in bed, where some tobacco had been laid."

According to the Chronicle, "it must have been shortly afterward that McCoy (McKie) accomplished his fiendish work".

One of the brothers also testified that, ever since that kick on the

head, John had always been prone to rash behaviour. He once stuck his hand into a fire on purpose, severely burning it, and another time, when drunk, he jumped through the local constable's front window, a misdemeanour for which he was duly fined.

A picture then of a tortured soul temporarily unbalanced by a massive sustained indulgence in alcohol, in the days leading up to the murder, a lack of any clear motive and the fact the case for the Crown did not produce sufficient medical evidence to "meet the special plea of the defence" was, just about, enough to spare John the hangman's noose.

Penal servitude

After just 20 minutes the jury – following direction from the judge – returned with a verdict of culpable homicide and John McKie, ex-Southampton and Hampshire County footballer was sentenced to ten years penal servitude.

Mary was buried in St Patrick's church, midway between Cronberry and Auchinleck, with none of

her family present at the service.

Although she had only been in their midst a matter of weeks, the local women arranged a collection of £1 12s 8d to buy her "a beautiful wreath which was placed with tender hands on the coffin".

But what of her four boys?

At the trial only one, Adrian, is mentioned at the time of the killing and thankfully, as we have seen, he had slept through the whole gruesome experience, despite being in the same bed.

The precise whereabouts of the other three boys at this time is uncertain but it is known that in October 1909 Adrian and the twins left for Pennsylvania for a new life accompanied by four of John's sisters and his aunt.

The eldest boy, Alexander was left behind in Southampton to be raised by members of the Byrne family.

In 1911 he was living at 17 Silverdale Road, with Mary's brother Gerald and two of her sisters, Isabella and Louisa.

What then became of Alexander is uncertain. One family rumour is he went to Canada and raised a family, another has him losing his life "in

Saints Spotlight



SAINTS' FIRST TEAM FIXTURES AND RESULTS 2013/14

| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
|------------------|----------------------------|-------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|--------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| AUGUST | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 17 | West Brom(A) | W 1-0 | Boruc | Chambers | Fonte | Lovren | Shaw | Wanyama | Schneiderlin | W-Prowse*** | Lallana* | Rodriguez** | Lambert 1 | Ramirez* | S Davis** |
| Sat 24 | Sunderland(H) | D 1-1 | Boruc | Chambers | Fonte 1 | Lovren | Shaw* | Wanyama | Schneiderlin** | W-Prowse | Lallana** | Rodriguez | Lambert | Clyne* | Osvaldo** |
| Tue 27 | Barnsley (CCC 2) . .(A) | W 5-1 | K Davis | Clyne | Fonte | Yoshida | Fox | Cork | S Davis 2 | Isgrrove* | Ramirez 1 | Rodriguez** 1 | Mayuka*** 1 | Rowe* | Reed** |
| Sat 31 | Norwich(A) | L 0-1 | Boruc | Chambers | Fonte | Lovren | Fox | Wanyama | Schneiderlin** | W-Prowse | Osvaldo*** | Lallana* | Lambert | Ramirez* | S Davis** |
| SEPTEMBER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun 15 | West Ham(H) | D 0-0 | Boruc | Clyne | Fonte | Lovren | Shaw** | Wanyama | Schneiderlin | Rodriguez | Osvaldo | Lallana* | Lambert | W-Prowse* | Chambers** |
| Sat 21 | Liverpool(A) | W 1-0 | Boruc | Clyne | Fonte | Lovren 1 | Shaw | Wanyama | Schneiderlin | Rodriguez** | Osvaldo | Lallana** | Lambert* | S Davis* | W-Prowse** |
| Tues 24 | Bristol City (CCC 3) (H) | W 2-0 | K Davis | Chambers | Yoshida | Hooiveld 1 | Fox | Cork | S Davis*** | W-Prowse | Ramirez 1 | Do Prado** | Lee* | Rodriguez* | Reed** |
| Sat 28 | Crystal Palace(H) | W 2-0 | Boruc | Clyne | Fonte | Lovren | Shaw | Wanyama | Schneiderlin | S Davis* | Osvaldo 1 | Lallana*** | Lambert** 1 | W-Prowse* | Rodriguez** |
| OCTOBER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 5 | Swansea(H) | W 2-0 | Boruc | Clyne | Fonte | Lovren | Fox | Wanyama | Schneiderlin | S Davis*** | Osvaldo* | Lallana 1 | Lambert | W-Prowse* | Rodriguez** 1 |
| Sat 19 | Man United(A) | D 1-1 | Boruc | Clyne | Fonte | Lovren | Shaw | Wanyama | Schneiderlin | S Davis** | Lallana 1 | Rodriguez | Osvaldo | W-Prowse* | Do Prado*** |
| Sat 26 | Fulham(H) | W 2-0 | Boruc | Clyne | Fonte | Lovren | Shaw | Wanyama | Schneiderlin | W-Prowse** | Rodriguez* 1 | Lallana | Lambert 1 | Do Prado* | Cork** |
| NOVEMBER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 2 | Stoke(A) | D 1-1 | Boruc | Clyne | Fonte | Lovren | Shaw | Wanyama | Schneiderlin | W-Prowse | Rodriguez* 1 | Lallana | Lambert | Ramirez* | S Davis** |
| Wed 6 | Sunderland (CCC 4) .(A) | L 1-2 | K Davis | Chambers | Yoshida 1 | Hooiveld | Fox | Cork | Reed | S Davis** | Ramirez*** | Rodriguez | Lee* | W-Prowse* | Lallana** |
| Sat 9 | Hull(H) | W 4-1 | Boruc | Clyne | Fonte | Lovren | Shaw | Wanyama* | Schneiderlin 1 | W-Prowse | Lallana*** 1 | Rodriguez | Lambert** 1 | S Davis* | Osvaldo** |
| Sat 23 | Arsenal(A) | L 0-2 | Boruc | Clyne | Fonte | Hooiveld | Shaw* | Wanyama | Schneiderlin | W-Prowse | Lallana** | Rodriguez | Lambert | S Davis* | Osvaldo** |
| DECEMBER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun 1 | Chelsea(A) | L 1-3 | Boruc* | Clyne | Fonte | Lovren | Shaw | Wanyama | Schneiderlin*** | W-Prowse** | Lallana | Rodriguez 1 | Osvaldo | Gazzaniga* | S Davis** |
| Wed 4 | Aston Villa(H) | L 2-3 | Gazzaniga | Clyne*** | Yoshida | Lovren | Shaw | Wanyama** | Schneiderlin | W-Prowse* | Lallana | Rodriguez 1 | Lambert | Osvaldo* 1 | Cork** |
| Sat 7 | Manchester City . . .(H) | D 1-1 | Gazzaniga | Chambers | Fonte | Lovren | Shaw | Cork | S Davis*** | W-Prowse | Lallana** | Rodriguez | Osvaldo* 1 | Lambert* | Ramirez** |
| Sat 14 | Newcastle(A) | D 1-1 | Gazzaniga | Chambers | Hooiveld | Lovren | Shaw | Cork | S Davis | W-Prowse** | Rodriguez*** 1 | Osvaldo* | Lambert | Lallana* | Schneiderlin** |
| Sat 21 | Tottenham(H) | L 2-3 | Gazzaniga | Chambers | Hooiveld | Lovren | Fox*** | Cork* | Schneiderlin | S Davis** | Lallana 1 | Rodriguez | Lambert 1 | W-Prowse* | Ramirez** |
| Thu 26 | Cardiff(A) | W 3-0 | Gazzaniga | Chambers | Fonte | Yoshida | Shaw | Cork | Schneiderlin | S Davis | Lallana * | Rodriguez 2 ** | Lambert 1*** | W-Prowse* | Ramirez** |
| Sun 29 | Everton(A) | L 1-2 | K Davis | Chambers*** | Fonte | Lovren | Shaw | Cork* | Schneiderlin | W-Prowse** | Lallana | Rodriguez | Lambert | Ramirez* 1 | Gallagher** |
| JANUARY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wed 1 | Chelsea(H) | L 0-3 | K Davis | Chambers | Fonte | Lovren | Shaw* | Cork** | Schneiderlin | S Davis*** | Lallana | Ramirez | Rodriguez | Clyne* | Lambert** |
| Sat 4 | Burnley (FAC 3) . . .(H) | W 4-3 | K Davis | Clyne 1 | Yoshida | Hooiveld*** | Shaw | Cork | Schneiderlin | S Davis | Ramirez** | W-Prowse | Lambert* 1 | Rodriguez* 1 | Lallana** 1 |
| Sat 11 | West Brom(H) | W 1-0 | Boruc | Clyne | Fonte | Lovren | Shaw | Cork* | Schneiderlin | S Davis | Lallana** 1 | Rodriguez*** | Lambert | Ramirez* | W-Prowse** |
| Sat 18 | Sunderland(A) | D 2-2 | Boruc | Chambers | Fonte | Lovren*** 1 | Shaw | Cork | Schneiderlin | S Davis | Lallana* | Rodriguez 1 | Lambert | Ramirez** | W-Prowse** |
| Sat 25 | Yeovil (FAC 4)(H) | W 2-0 | K Davis | Clyne | Yoshida | Hooiveld | Shaw | Cork | Schneiderlin | W-Prowse** | Lallana** | Do Prado* 1 | Rodriguez | Gallagher* 1 | S Davis** |
| Tue 28 | Arsenal(H) | D 2-2 | Boruc | Chambers | Fonte 1 | Yoshida | Shaw | Cork | Schneiderlin | S Davis** | Lallana 1 | Rodriguez | Gallagher* | W-Prowse* | Do Prado** |
| FEBRUARY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 1 | Fulham(A) | W 3-0 | Boruc | Chambers** | Fonte | Yoshida | Shaw | Wanyama* | Schneiderlin | S Davis | Lallana 1 | Rodriguez*** 1 | Lambert 1 | Cork* | Clyne** |
| Sat 8 | Stoke(H) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tue 11 | Hull(A) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 15 | Sunderland (FAC 5) .(A) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 22 | West Ham(A) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARCH | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 1 | Liverpool(H) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 8 | Crystal Palace(A) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 15 | Norwich(H) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 22 | Tottenham(A) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 29 | Newcastle(H) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| APRIL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 5 | Manchester City(A) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 12 | Cardiff(H) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 19 | Aston Villa(A) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 26 | Everton(H) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MAY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sat 3 | Swansea(A) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun11 | Man United(H) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | LA | LG | CA | CG | CSA | CSG | | LA | LG | CA | CG | CSA | CSG | | LA | LG | CA | CG | CSA | CSG |
|-----------------|-------|----|------|----|--------|-----|---------------------|--------|----|------|----|---------|-----|-----------------|-------|----|------|----|---------|-----|
| KELVIN DAVIS | 2 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 291(1) | 0 | JACK CORK | 9(6) | 0 | 5 | 0 | 110(14) | 0 | RICKIE LAMBERT | 19(4) | 7 | 1 | 1 | 206(14) | 111 |
| PAULO GAZZANIGA | 5(1) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16(1) | 0 | VICTOR WANYAMA | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 | JAY RODRIGUEZ | 21(2) | 10 | 3(2) | 2 | 49(15) | 21 |
| ARTUR BORUC | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 38 | 0 | MORGAN SCHNEIDERLIN | 20(1) | 1 | 2 | 0 | 189(29) | 9 | DANI OSVALDO | 9(4) | 3 | 0 | 0 | 9(4) | 3 |
| NATHANIEL CLYNE | 12(4) | 0 | 3 | 1 | 49(4) | 2 | ADAM LALLANA | 24(1) | 7 | 1(2) | 1 | 224(26) | 58 | TADANARI LEE | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 9(5) | 2 |
| CALUM CHAMBERS | 12(1) | 0 | 2 | 0 | 14(2) | 0 | STEVEN DAVIS | 14(5) | 1 | 4(1) | 2 | 41(17) | 5 | EMMANUEL MAYUKA | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3(10) | 1 |
| DEJAN LOVREN | 20 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 2 | JAMES WARD-PROWSE | 12(11) | 0 | 3(1) | 0 | 25(24) | 1 | BILLY SHARP | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12(6) | 10 |
| JOSE FONTE | 21(1) | 2 | 1(1) | 0 | 163(5) | 14 | JASON PUNCHEON | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 70(10) | 10 | SAM GALLAGHER | 1(5) | 0 | 0(2) | 1 | 1(7) | 1 |
| JOS HOOIVELD | 4 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 74(3) | 9 | LLOYD ISGROVE | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1(1) | 0 | HARRISON REED | 0(1) | 0 | 1(3) | 0 | 1(4) | 0 |
| MAYA YOSHIDA | 3(1) | 0 | 5 | 1 | 41(2) | 1 | OMAR ROWE | 0 | 0 | 0(2) | 0 | 0(2) | 0 | | | | | | | |
| LUKE SHAW | 21(1) | 0 | 2 | 0 | 47(6) | 0 | JAKE SINCLAIR | 0 | 0 | 0(1) | 0 | 0(1) | 0 | | | | | | | |
| DANNY FOX | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 58(10) | 1 | GASTON RAMIREZ | 1(10) | 1 | 4 | 2 | 25(16) | 8 | | | | | | | |
| JACK STEPHENS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0(1) | 0 | GULY DO PRADO | 0(5) | 0 | 2 | 1 | 79(33) | 23 | | | | | | | |

KEY: LA: league appearances. LG: league goals. CA: cup appearances. CG: cup goals. CSA: career Saints appearances. CSG: career Saints goals.

Adam Rant



This week's big talking points
with **Adam Leitch**

Pietersen's inevitable and sad demise



LOVED AND LOATHED: Kevin Pietersen divided opinion as an England player.

It was always going to end this way.

Kevin Pietersen's unceremonious culling from the England squad somehow felt like a plot twist everybody had predicted from the second chapter.

It's such a shame there wasn't a twist to create a happy ending.

Adam Rant regularly may remember a column a month or so ago which stated that Alistair Cook, right, must now stand up and be counted if he is to lead England in the long run.

If that meant that Andy Flower

and Pietersen had to go after the Ashes debacle then so be it.

Turns out that is exactly what has happened.

We don't know what went on behind closed doors and there are conflicting reports of Pietersen's struggles with the England dressing room and Graeme Swann stating all was fine these days.

Some have

accused Cook of a cowardly action but that seems a little rough. Ditching your best player, and therefore your best hope of good results, is hardly the action of a coward.

What England can be accused of is a failure of management that, it seems, has gone on for a fair while.

All right, Pietersen is clearly a unique, one-off type of figure. That's how he plays, that's how he conducts himself.

But he's hardly the first maverick in the world of sport.

The success of great managers down the years – look no further than the world of football for a vast range of examples – is how you deal with those

players. Others have proved it is possible.

Adam Rant's first reaction upon hearing the news that, in effect, Pietersen's England career was over was disappointment. What a pity that the public will be denied watching such a marvellous talent in the Test match arena.

It was also to rally against this lack of leadership, this failure of management, that has led to things getting to this point.

But then, in the cold light of day, you come back once again to that earlier column, written with passion and in the heat of the moment in the Ashes debacle. England need a fresh start.

They need Cook to stand up and be a leader. No

more running things by committee, he is the captain and that is vital in cricket.

Flower has gone and it's now time for a fresh approach and, if this is the way Cook wants to do it, then he deserves support.

Maybe it should never have got to this, but now it has the future of English cricket is more important than one person, no matter how good they are.

England will miss Pietersen, and no doubt a few shaky results in the next six months would lead to question marks over the decision.

But England have to be positive and decisive from now on and, sad as it is, this is a first step towards that.

Mourinho has done it again

JOSE Mourinho proved once again why he is such a fantastic manager.

You cannot take much of what he says seriously, but you also cannot argue with the results he delivers.

It was a massive game for his Chelsea side as they took on Manchester City. It was undoubtedly even bigger for them than it was for City.

Before the game Mourinho was in good form, during it even better, after it downright hilarious.

His tactics worked perfectly once again.

This wasn't an attempt to stifle the opposition, and it was never likely to be because this was a game that Chelsea really needed to win to give themselves hope of a decent title tilt.

Of course they were well organised and well drilled defensively, Mourinho teams always are, but they were quite prepared to attack, particularly on the break.

City were, as always, all out attack most of the game and that simply played into Chelsea's hands, and they duly delivered the 1-0 win.

Afterwards Mourinho proved just why he is so good and why players love him so much.

His comparison of Chelsea to a little horse that needs milk and to learn how to jump when talking about them gunning for the title in racing terms was wonderful.

As everybody knows it is utter rubbish.

This little horse of which he speaks is one of the most expensively assembled squads in the history of world football, with one of the biggest wage bills in world football, funded by one of the richest men on the planet.

If that's a little horse then you wouldn't want to run across a big one.

But as laughable as his statements were, they were such a great example of how he marries tactical nous with brilliant management skills.

He somehow, against all odds and good sense, manages to always make his team feel as though they are underdogs.

Chelsea are not, nobody out in the wider world thinks so, but Mourinho has a way of engendering that spirit and it really works for him.

Say what you like about him, but Mourinho is a master of his craft.



THE MASTER: Jose Mourinho.

Groves needs to move on

GEORGE Groves needs to stop complaining and either make a fight with Carl Froch or move on with his career.

We all know he was the victim of a harsh stoppage, we all know if that wouldn't have happened he might have won that fight and the IBF have acknowledged that by ordering a rematch.

But now he has complaining

about the split of the purse bid for the rematch and that the initial fight should be a ruled a no contest.

Groves has every reason to feel aggrieved, but there comes a time when you have to let it go and move on.

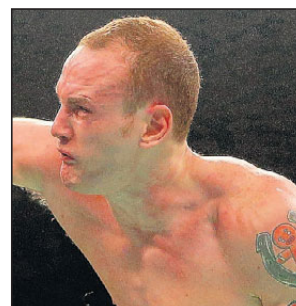
If it means that much to him then he needs to do whatever he can to get the rematch, even if that means accepting the ini-

tial result and fighting for less money than he wants, and then win it. Simple as that.

If not then he just has to let it go.

It seems as if it is still eating away at him, and that kind of feeling not channelled properly is rarely a healthy thing.

For his own sake he needs to get past this one way or the other.



Saints Spotlight

QUOTES of the week

"If Paul Downton made the decision it's an early big call. Ashes humiliations rarely end well. The last time they were whitewashed in Australia, in 2007, it cost Duncan Fletcher his job. In that sense perhaps there was an inevitability about it" – Mike Atherton responds to early reports that Andy Flower's tenure as England team director had come to an end.

"Following the recent very disappointing Ashes defeat it is clear to me that this is now time for England cricket, led by Alastair Cook, to rebuild with a new set of values and goals. The opportunity to start with a clean slate and begin to instill methods to ensure England cricket is moving in the right direction will be an incredibly exciting challenge for someone but I do not feel like I am in a position to undertake that challenge" – Andy Flower confirms he has stepped down from his role with England.

"I believe I have a great deal still to give as a cricketer. I will continue to play but deeply regret that it won't be for England" – Kevin Pietersen, pictured right, on the end of his international career after nine turbulent years.



"Maybe, for the Tottenham manager, the planet is England. You will see (how good City are) in the Champions League. You will see in a couple of months" – Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho questions Tim Sherwood's assertion that Manchester City are the best team on the planet.

"That was him squealing and centre-halves aren't supposed to squeal are they? He (referee Howard Webb) can't be absolutely certain of what's happened, except that Chico Flores is over-exaggerating, which is generally the norm for him unfortunately" – West Ham boss Sam Allardyce blames defender Flores for the sending-off of Andy Carroll in the 2-0 win over Swansea.

"At some stage in our job you have to make a decision. Are you wrong or right? You will only know at the end of the season" – Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger defends the club's decision to sign Kim Kallstrom on deadline day when they knew he was suffering from a back injury.

LAMBO RACES INTO

RICKIE Lambert secured himself a unique place in Saints' history last week as he made it 100 league goals for the club.

The 31-year-old striker joined Saints in August 2009, signed by then manager Alan Pardew for what has proved to be a bargain £1m from Bristol Rovers.

From that time onwards he has barely stopped scoring.

When Lambert joined Saints he hadn't even played in the second tier of English football, but after winning back-to-back promotions is now a Premier League regular and a full England international dreaming of a place in the squad for this summer's World Cup.

Here at the *Sports Pink* we pay tribute to Lambert's amazing goalscoring feats and take a look back at all 100 league goals he has bagged for the club.

1) AUGUST 15, 2009 HUDDERSFIELD 3 SAINTS 1

Scored his first league goal for Saints with an equalising header early in the second half at the Galpharm Stadium that bounced off the crossbar and over the line. It proved to only be a consolation, however, as Huddersfield scored twice more.

2) AUGUST 29, 2009 STOCKPORT 1 SAINTS 1

Penalty number one of Lambert's Saints career was successfully converted against one of his former clubs, as he blasted home into the bottom left corner from 12 yards late in the first half, before a late spot-kick denied the club victory.

3&4) SEPTEMBER 19, 2009 SAINTS 2 YEovil 0

A pair of penalties for Lambert. First, he fired low to the keeper's right after a foul on Marek Saganowski. Then, early in the second half, he powered the ball into the opposite corner following a handball.

That helped Saints claim their first league win of the season under Alan Pardew.

5) SEPTEMBER 29, 2009 SAINTS 2 BRISTOL ROVERS 3

Lambert, rather predictably, scored against his old club. His thundering header from a Lloyd James delivery was judged to have crossed the line, within a minute of the second half beginning. The goal put Saints 2-1 up, before Rovers came back to win.

6) OCTOBER 3, 2009 SAINTS 4 GILLINGHAM 1

A sublime early goal from Lambert, who hit a thumping volley into the bottom corner from Dean Hammond's rightwing delivery. The strike set Saints on their way to a win that erased the ten-point deficit they began the season with.

7) OCTOBER 17, 2009 OLDHAM 1 SAINTS 3



HEAD START: Rickie Lambert heads in his first league goal for Saints against Huddersfield at the Galpharm Stadium.

Lambert netted his first Saints free-kick, although this was hardly the best of the bunch. His low curling effort around the Oldham wall squirmed under the keeper Dean Brill and over the line. But, hey, they all count.

8) OCTOBER 24, 2009 SAINTS 3 MK DONS 1

Lambert scored the decisive goal, breaking a tie late in the game, as he finished off a training ground routine. Adam Lallana dummied a free-kick near the by-line, and Lloyd James cut the ball back into the path of Lambert to sweep home.

9&10) OCTOBER 31, 2009 LEYTON ORIENT 2 SAINTS 2

Lambert scored twice late on to rescue a point.

First, he sidefooted home from eight yards, after being picked out by Adam Lallana's beautiful first-time pass. Then, he lashed a half-volley into the top corner from just inside the area.

11) NOVEMBER 15, 2009 SAINTS 1 BRIGHTON 3

A late first-half penalty gave Lambert the chance to make it 2-1.

As always, he made no mistake from the spot, striking the ball low into the bottom corner, halving Brighton's lead in the process. In the end, however, the goal was for naught.

12) NOVEMBER 24, 2009 HARTLEPOOL 1 SAINTS 3

After setting up Adam Lallana's equaliser, Lambert made certain

that the Saints fans who had made the long trip on a Tuesday night went home happy, closing down a clearance from the Hartlepool keeper before slotting the ball into the net for the team's third goal.

13) DECEMBER 1, 2009 SAINTS 1 WYCOMBE 0

Not a pretty game, but a moment of quality from Lambert swung it Saints' way.

He clinically drilled the ball into the bottom corner just before half-time, after receiving a square pass from Papa Waigo, who had escaped the attention of the Wycombe back-line.

14) DECEMBER 5, 2009 WALSALL 1 SAINTS 3

Saints Spotlight

SAINTS' 100-CLUB



SPOT ON: Rickie Lambert powers home a penalty kick – his first for Saints – at Stockport County in 2009.



QUALITY FINISH: Rickie Lambert scores against Wycombe Wanderers in December 2009.

Lambert rounded off a comfortable away win for Saints, burying a chance into the bottom corner from David Connolly's precision pass midway through the second half.

**15&16) DECEMBER 12, 2009
SAINTS 3 TRANMERE 0**

Lambert netted a spectacular free-kick here, rifling in a 30-yard thunderbolt to complete the rout, after his earlier penalty had built on the lead given to Saints by Dan Harding.

**17) DECEMBER 28, 2009
COLCHESTER 2 SAINTS 1**

A lot of people didn't see this one, and that includes those in the ground. Dense fog at Colchester made visibility difficult as Lambert

stepped up to take a penalty in added time, but the striker still duly converted the consolation effort.

**18) JANUARY 16, 2010
MILLWALL 1 SAINTS 1**

When Lambert netted a stoppage time free kick, with the aid of a large deflection, it looked as if Saints had the game won. But Millwall took the shine off his effort, by going straight up the other end and equalising.

**19) JANUARY 30, 2010
SAINTS 2 STOCKPORT 0**

There was a touch of good fortune about this one. From a Joseph Mills corner, the ball was punched against ex-Stockport man Lambert by the keeper, with it looping off the striker

and into the net, as Saints broke the deadlock.

**20) FEBRUARY 27, 2010
SAINTS 5 WALSALL 1**

After setting up Saints' first two goals, Lambert scored the team's fourth, brilliantly controlling Dean Hammond's chipped ball towards him at the back post, then powering it into the net.

**21) MARCH 2, 2010
SAINTS 5 HUDDERSFIELD 0**

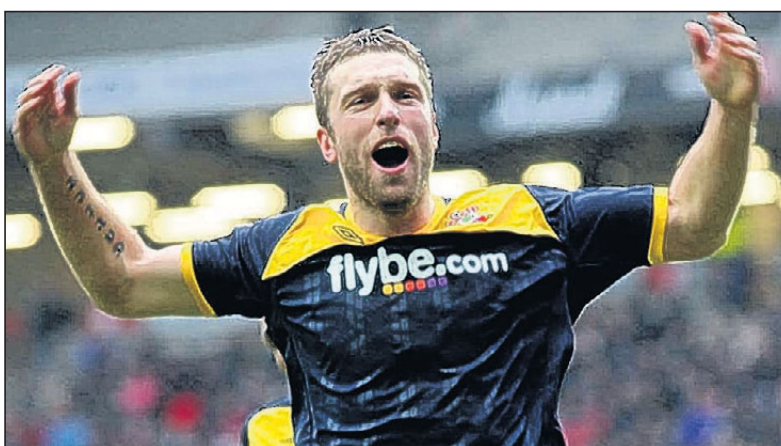
Lambert kick-started an incredible destruction of the Terriers, heading Jason Puncheon's early cross in off the underside of the bar. From that moment on, Saints ran riot, although Lambert had to settle for just one goal.

**22,23&24) MARCH 20, 2010
MK DONS 0 SAINTS 3**

The striker scored his first ever Saints hat-trick, as he broke through the 30-goal barrier for the season, including his opening-day effort for his former club Bristol Rovers. After heading into an empty net, Lambert added a penalty, and then a wonder goal, scoring with a 40-yard half-volley that flew over the keeper's head.

**25) MARCH 23, 2010
SAINTS 3 HARTLEPOOL 2**

Lambert helped send Saints into the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final on the back of a win. His well-struck half-volley shortly before half-time made it 2-1.



HAT-TRICK: Rickie Lambert celebrates his first treble for Saints, scored against MK Dons on March 20, 2010.

QUOTES of the week

"I'm sure that lots of players want out, especially people like myself and Nani who have been in Manchester for seven or eight years. Manchester United is a huge club, a club that does everything for its players but sometimes a footballer wants to leave just to experience a different way to play football, to learn something as well" – Manchester United midfielder Anderson claims some of his teammates want to leave Old Trafford.

"Two horses and a little horse that still needs milk and to learn how to jump. A horse that next season can race" – Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho's assessment of Chelsea's chances of winning the Premier League title.

"I didn't speak. It was Billy the masseur that spoke to the team. He was screaming so much in Scottish I didn't understand him but the players were clapping. It was Billy's team-talk" – Mourinho hails masseur Billy McCulloch as his team's pre-match rabble-rouser against Manchester City.

"He's the only person in boxing I truly despise. I don't like Adonis Stevenson as a person but he's a great fighter whereas I just despise the other fella on every level. I detest him. The way he looks at me, looking down his nose, thinking he's something he's not. He's a fraud. He doesn't even want to be a boxer" – Tony Bellew, above, is no fan of Nathan Cleverly.



"Since the autumn we have conceded hardly any penalties or free-kicks from the scrum. We want to paint the right pictures to the referee, and certainly we're pleased with our discipline record so far" – scrummaging is an art form for Ireland assistant coach John Plumtree.

"I want the coach back and have been trying to call him. I don't mind this coach. How could I sack anyone anyway? I need the approval of the Football League before I own the club. GFH are still running Leeds United. They did not want Brian as manager but didn't have the courage to sack him" – prospective new Leeds United owner Massimo Cellino, who made an apparent U-turn after sacking manager Brian McDermott.

Continued on next page 14

PREMIER LEAGUE RESULTS/LATEST TABLE - SEE BACK PAGE

Saints Spotlight

BOOK of the WEEK

At the Close of Play
By Ricky Ponting

Sports book of the month price: £18.80,
saving 25% on rrp

BOOM! The sound reverberated around the office like a thunderous Ricky Ponting drive through extra cover, but the great Australian batsman was thousands of miles away – the noise emanated from his thumping autobiography, which runs to a mammoth 700+ pages, hitting the desk.

As England's disastrous tour Down Under limped to towards its humiliating conclusion following the final one-day last week, all thoughts of cricketing success were being condemned to a dark space reserved for abstract notions, somewhere towards the rear of our sporting consciousness.

While wholly understandable, cricket supporters, together with those who simply enjoy reading about a sporting phenomenon, should lump a copy of this enormous book to their favourite armchair and settle in for a lengthy treat.

Having made his first class debut (for Tasmania) before he was 18, Ricky Ponting went on to be capped 168 times by Australia, captaining his country for seven mostly successful years, between 2004-11: the team lost just 16 of their 77 matches with Ponting at the helm. He retired in 2012, boasting a Test average of 51.85.

These are the bare facts, but *At the Close of Play* is considerably more than an autobiography assembled to fit around a series of impressive statistics.

Ponting was such a natural cricketer that he had secured a sponsorship contract with a bat manufacturer by the time he was 12 after scoring four centuries in a week for a junior team. A place at Australia's Cricket Academy soon followed; he would graduate with a reputation as the best player that several of the academy's hardened coaches had ever seen.

Were you to draw a graph of his Test career, however, it would not be represented by an upward-only curve. He often encountered difficulty with high-class shorter deliveries and following several off-field incidents, he admitted (in 1999) that he had a "problem with alcohol."

Nevertheless, you do not play more than 160 Test matches for Australia if your temperament is suspect. Accordingly, Ponting deserves his place in cricket's pantheon of greats, up there with two of his contemporaries, Tendulkar and Lara. Could he have been a little more adventurous as a captain? Probably, although as he proved time and again, pragmatism is possibly a greater feature of leadership.

QUIZ QUESTION:

We've teamed up with Sports Book of the Month & have a copy of *At the Close of Play* to give away.

To win this week's sports book, go to their website (sportsbookofthemonth.com) and answer the following question:

Against which country did Ricky Ponting make his final appearance for Australia?



HISTORY MAN LAMBO

From page 13

26&27 APRIL 13, 2010
BRISTOL ROVERS 1 SAINTS 5

Lambert scored twice against his former club to put Saints into a 2-1 lead and on their way to a landslide victory after they had fallen behind early on. First, he headed in Jason Puncheon's corner before firing in a 30-yard free-kick in added time at the end of the first half.

28 APRIL 24, 2010
SAINTS 3 CARLISLE 2

With the aid of the near post, Lambert finished off Michail Antonio's cross early in the second half to put Saints 2-1 ahead, before returning the favour by setting up the winger for the third goal shortly afterwards.

29&30 MAY 8, 2010
SAINTS 3 SOUTHEND 1

Saints fell behind, but Lambert equalised, heading in Jason Puncheon's delivery. The striker was then tripped in the area late in the game, and made no mistake from the resulting penalty kick, scoring his 36th and final Saints goal in all competitions of an amazing campaign. Before the match Lambert had been presented with the *Daily Echo* Saints player of the season award.

31 AUGUST 21, 2010
SAINTS 1 LEYTON ORIENT 1

Another season, another goal, another free kick.

Lambert put Saints in front with a deflected set-piece from 25 yards, only for Orient to quickly equalise and hold on for a point.

32 AUGUST 28, 2010
BRISTOL ROVERS 0 SAINTS 4

A game remembered mostly for being Alan Pardew's last as Saints manager. Lambert got the third against his former club, netting from the penalty spot, after Lee Barnard had been fouled.

33&34 OCTOBER 2, 2010
SAINTS 2 CHERRIES 0

After a run of seven matches without a goal, Lambert was back on the scoresheet, converting a pair of spot kicks to lead Saints to a win against their south coast rivals.

35 OCTOBER 9, 2010
SAINTS 2 TRANMERE 0

It seems inconceivable it would take so long, but this was the first goal of the season from open play for Lambert. He headed in Danny Butterfield's first-half cross to open the scoring.

36 OCTOBER 30, 2010
NOTTS CO 1 SAINTS 3

Saints were dominated for more than an hour, but levelled through a Lambert penalty after Lee Barnard had been fouled. Lambert then set up Barnard for the decisive second.



GOING UP: Rickie Lambert scores from the spot against Plymouth in May 2011 and, inset, celebrates his goal that effectively sealed Saints' promotion to the Championship.



LEFT: Rickie Lambert heads in against Tranmere in October 2010.



RIGHT: Rickie Lambert nets his second penalty of the game at Peterborough in February 2011.

37 DECEMBER 28, 2010
SAINTS 4 HUDDERSFIELD 1

Another seven-game drought was ended as Lambert restored parity for Saints with a half-volley with Saints eventually storming to victory.

38 JANUARY 3, 2011
DAG & REDBRIDGE 1 SAINTS 3

Lambert rounded off the scoring in this contest, powering past the home defence before lifting the ball over the advancing keeper in the 89th minute.

39 JANUARY 11, 2011
OLDHAM 0 SAINTS 6

Saints bagged half-a-dozen goals at Boundary Park, but there was only one for Lambert. He fired into an empty net for the fifth of the night, after Oscar Gobern's saved shot had rebounded to him.

40&41 FEBRUARY 1, 2011
EXETER 1 SAINTS 2

Lambert finally reached double figures for the season, as he equalised with 20 minutes left, heading in Dany N'Guessan's cross. The striker then won the game in the 90th minute,

heading home from a few yards out.

42&43 FEBRUARY 5, 2011
PETERBOROUGH 4 SAINTS 4

Lambert continued his perfect penalty record with another two successful spot kicks. He made it 2-0 after Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain had been tripped in the area, and then 3-2 after Richard Chaplow was judged to have been fouled.

44 FEBRUARY 12, 2011
SAINTS 1 CARLISLE 0

A pretty dull affair was decided shortly before half-time by Lambert,

SAINTS v STOKE REACTION IN MONDAY'S DAILY ECHO

Saints Spotlight

SPOT ON FOR SAINTS

Sports Quiz



VITAL GOAL: Rickie Lambert celebrates his strike against Cherries in March 2011.



LEFT: Rickie Lambert makes it 2-1 during Saints' home game against Swindon Town in February 2011.

RIGHT: Rickie Lambert celebrates making it 2-0 against Sheffield Wednesday with Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (Southampton) in March 2011.



who glanced home an Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain delivery moments after Carlisle had been reduced to ten men.

**45) FEBRUARY 26, 2011
SAINTS 4 SWINDON 1**

With the game poised at 1-1, Lambert nodded Saints ahead on the hour mark, as the Swindon keeper made a hash of coming for Dan Harding's free kick, leaving the striker with an empty net.

**46) MARCH 12, 2011
CHERRIES 1 SAINTS 3**

Lambert rounded off a vital victory for Saints, curling a 20-yard free-kick into the top corner with two minutes remaining to significantly dent the Cherries' promotion hopes and improve his own side's chances of a top-two finish.

**47) MARCH 19, 2011
SAINTS 2 SHEFF WEDNESDAY 0**

After Jose Fonte's second-half opener, Lambert wrapped up this victory with a resounding finish from inside the area, after Lee Barnard's blocked shot had spun into his path.

**48) APRIL 9, 2011
LEYTON ORIENT 0 SAINTS 2**

Ryan Dickson dug out a cross from the left and Lambert converted a free header from six yards to put Saints into a first-half lead. The forward then set up strike partner Lee Barnard for the second in the dying stages.

**49) APRIL 25, 2011
SAINTS 2 HARTLEPOOL 0**

Saints moved to the brink of promotion from League One thanks to this one that began with a Lambert penalty shortly after half-time. He

then provided the assist for Jose Fonte's late second.

**50&51) MAY 2, 2011
PLYMOUTH 1 SAINTS 3**

Lambert broke through the 20-goal barrier for the season and helped to effectively ensure Saints' place in the Championship.

After heading them in front right on half-time, his 50th league goal for Saints, he made it 3-0 from the penalty spot just before the hour mark.

Continued on page 16

1. How much did Arsenal bid for Luis Suarez in the summer of 2013?
2. Where was the last Winter Olympics held?
3. Since the Six Nations era started in 2000, which two countries have failed to win the Six Nations title?
4. Which player has the most runs in the history of the ICC World Twenty20 tournament?
5. In what year did Rory McIlroy win the PGA Tour golf tournament The Honda Classic?
6. Where did Norwich manager Chris Hughton end his professional playing career?
7. Leicester are currently top of the Sky Bet Championship standings but who is their leading goalscorer?
8. Which snooker player is known as The Wizard of Wishaw?
9. The Spurs are an NBA franchise based in which American City?
10. Which Indian Premier League side plays their home games at Eden Gardens?
11. Which club did Michael Laudrup, pictured right, manage before taking over as Swansea boss in 2012?
12. What, to the nearest whole number, is Kevin Pietersen's batting average in Test cricket?
13. What was final score of Sunday's Super Bowl between the Seattle Seahawks and the Denver Broncos?
14. How many aces did Ivo Karlovic rack up in his defeat of Daniel Brands in Zagreb this week to equal Mark Philippoussis' ATP record for a three-set match?
15. What pro cycling team does 2012 Tour de France winner Bradley Wiggins ride for?
16. Former Wales striker Craig Bellamy has scored for how many Premier League clubs in his career?
17. Name the Super Bowl XLVIII winning coach.
18. When was the last time before this year that Great Britain reached the Davis Cup quarter-finals?
19. The new Super League season got underway last night. What is the name of the league's new sponsor?
20. How many medals did Great Britain bring home from the Winter Olympics at Vancouver 2010?



ANSWERS

(Army Williams - skeleton).
18 1986; 19 First Utility; 17 Peter Carroll; City and Cardiff; 16 Team Sky; 16 Seven (Coventry, Newcastle, Blackburn, Liverpool, West Ham, Manchester City and Cardiff); 15 Team Sky; 14 47; 13 43-8 to the Seahawks; Knight Riders; 11 Real Madrid; San Antonio, Texas; 10 Kolkata David Nugent; 8 John Higgins; 9 (858) 5. 2012; 6 Brentford; 7 (Scotland); 4. Mahela Jayawardene Vancouver, Canada; 3. Italy and 1 £40million plus £12.2

GO TO dailyecho.co.uk FOR SAINTS MATCH UPDATES

Saints Spotlight

FOOTBALL FIXTURES for the week ahead

Monday, February 10
SKY BET FOOTBALL LEAGUE
Championship: Derby v QPR.
CALOR SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division: Hitchin v Bedford, St Albans v Bideford.
Division One South & West: Clevedon v Swindon Supermarine).

Tuesday, February 11
Barclays Premier League
Cardiff v Aston Villa, Hull v SAINTS, West Brom v Chelsea, West Ham v Norwich.
SKY BET FOOTBALL LEAGUE
Championship: Bolton v Burnley, Brighton v Leeds, Huddersfield v Nottm Forest, Sheff Wed v Wigan, Watford v Birmingham, Yeovil v Millwall.
League 1: Carlisle v Bradford, Leyton Orient v Bristol City, Port Vale v Colchester.
League 2: Bristol Rovers v Cheltenham, Mansfield v Bury, Newport County v AFC Wimbledon, Torquay v Northampton, Wycombe v Fleetwood Town.
SKILL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE
Premier: Cambridge Utd v Alfreton Town, Dartford v Grimsby, Forest Green v Braintree Town, Macclesfield v Luton, Salisbury v Woking, Tamworth v Hyde, Wrexham v Hereford.
South: Bishops Stortford v Weston-super-Mare, Bromley v Eastbourne Borough, Concord Rangers v Boreham Wood, Dorchester v Havant & Waterlooville, Dover v Maidenhhead, Gosport Borough v Whitehawk, Hayes & Yeading v Sutton.
CALOR SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division: Bashley v Chippenham, Hemel Hempstead v Stourbridge, Poole Town v Hungerford, Weymouth v Burnham.
Division One South & West: Bishops Cleeve v Yate, Godalming v Fleet Town, Shortwood v Cirencester, Stratford v Thatcham, Taunton v Evesham.
RUSSELL COTES CUP
Quarter-final: AFC Portchester v AFC Totton, Sholing v Farnborough.
SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
SWL Cup, semi-final: Petersfield Town v Whitchurch Utd (at Alresford Town FC).
Premier Division: Fareham v Lymington Town, Folland Sports v Winchester City, Hamworthy Utd v Verwood, Moneyfields v Blackfield & Langley, Newport IoW v Bournemouth Poppies, Totton & Eling v Romsey.
Division One: Andover NS v Tadley Calveia, Andover Town v Aynessbury, Hayling Utd v Team Solent, Hythe & Dibden v US Portsmouth, Stockbridge v Pewsey Vale.

Wednesday, February 12
BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE
Arsenal v Man Utd, Everton v Crystal Palace, Fulham v Liverpool, Man City v Sunderland, Newcastle v Spurs, Stoke v Swansea.
SKY BET FOOTBALL LEAGUE
League 1: Sheff Utd v Brentford.
CALOR SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division: Corby v Cambridge City.
Division One South & West: Guildford v Mangotsfield.
SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division: Brockenhurst v Bemerton HH, Christchurch v Fawley AFC.
PUMA ENGINEERING HAMPSHIRE PREMIER LEAGUE
Premier Division: AFC Aldermaston v Colder Common, Locks Heath v Winchester Castle.
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Wyvern Challenge Cup, second round: AFC Totton v Wimborne Town.
Wyvern Shield League Phase: C. Alton Town v Sholing, C. Fawley v Folland Sports, B. Locks Heath v Christchurch.

Thursday, February 13
SKILL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE
Premier: Chester FC v FC Halifax.
SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division: Fareham Town v Alresford Town.
WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Premier Division: AFC Portchester v Bemerton HH, New Milton v Winchester City.

Friday, February 14
SKY BET FOOTBALL LEAGUE
League 2: Accrington Stanley v Scunthorpe.
BARCLAYS U21 PREMIER LEAGUE
West Ham U21 v SAINTS U21 (7pm).

Saturday, February 15
(All FL games 3pm ko unless stated)
FA CUP
Fifth round: Cardiff v Wigan, Man City v

RICK QUICK TO SHINE

From page 15

52&53) AUGUST 16, 2011
IPSWICH 2 SAINTS 5

Lambert scored his first ever Championship goals to power Saints into an early 2-0 lead. A tremendous one-two with Adam Lallana set him free for the first, his 60th Saints goal in all competitions, before Lallana set him free again minutes later to finish sublimely into the far corner.

54,55&56) SEPTEMBER 10, 2011
SAINTS 3 NOTTINGHAM FOREST 2
Lambert bagged a second hat-trick of his Saints career in a thrilling St Mary's encounter.

After stabbing home an early equaliser he headed Saints 2-1 in front.

After Forest levelled before half-time, Lambert settled the contest after the break, heading in a late Danny Fox free kick.

57) SEPTEMBER 18, 2011
SAINTS 4 BIRMINGHAM 1

This was about as close as Lambert has ever come to missing a penalty. After being bundled over in the box, he struck an early penalty that hit the post and went in, as he set Saints on the way to a big win.

58&59) OCTOBER 1, 2011
SAINTS 4 WATFORD 0

Lambert scored twice on his 100th Saints appearance, netting another two penalty kicks. The first came midway through the opening half, after a handball, while he added another

after the break having been fouled himself.

60) OCTOBER 15, 2011
DERBY 1 SAINTS 1

Having trailed to an early goal, Saints earned a point through Lambert's second-half strike. A nice one-two with David Connolly set him free, and he duly finished low into the far corner.

61,62&63) NOVEMBER 19, 2011
SAINTS 3 BRIGHTON 0

Lambert completed his hat-trick of Saints hat-tricks, heading his side into second-half lead, before completing the comprehensive victory with a pair of penalties.

64&65) DECEMBER 10, 2011
SAINTS 2 BLACKPOOL 2

Lambert opened the scoring with a deflected strike, but Saints were behind after conceding a pair of sloppy goals, including a howler from Bartosz Bialkowski. They were rescued at the death by Lambert, though, as he headed home Frazer Richardson's lofted ball into the box.

66) DECEMBER 18, 2011
POMPEY 1 SAINTS 1



DERBY DELIGHT: Rickie Lambert celebrates scoring against Pompey in December 2011.

If he wasn't already there, this was a goal that elevated Lambert to true hero status, heading in Danny Fox's second-half free-kick to put Saints in front at Fratton Park. Pompey would equalise, but Lambert described his goal as "one of the best feelings I've ever had".

67) JANUARY 31, 2012
SAINTS 1 CARDIFF 1

Trailing 1-0 at half-time, Saints salvaged a draw in the second half thanks to a Lambert penalty. The striker calmly slotted home from 12 yards after a handball decision went in the home side's favour.

68,69&70) FEBRUARY 25, 2012
WATFORD 0 SAINTS 3

Lambert added another match ball to his burgeoning collection with a hat-trick at Vicarage Road. Lambert looped in an early header before making it 2-0 before half-time with a crisp shot from 20 yards. A late

EASTLEIGH SPORTS AWARDS - SEE PAGES 32-34

Saints Spotlight

IN CHAMPIONSHIP



HAT-TRICK HERO: Rickie Lambert heads in his third goal in the home match against Nottingham Forest in September 2011.



TEAM CELEBRATION: Rickie Lambert after opening the scoring against Blackpool in December 2011.

penalty then completed his treble.

71) MARCH 3, 2012 LEEDS 0 SAINTS 1

One of the most memorable goal-keeping displays in club history from Kelvin Davis is what this game will rightly be remembered for, but it

was Lambert's thumping early volley from Tadanari Lee's cushioned header that separated the sides.

72) MARCH 6, 2012 SAINTS 1 IPSWICH 1

Lambert fired Saints in front with 16 minutes, converting Steve De

Ridder's low cross from ten yards only for Ipswich to salvage a late draw.

73,74&75) MARCH 17, 2012 MILLWALL 2 SAINTS 3

A fourth hat-trick of the season for Lambert in a truly memorable

match. He finished off Morgan Schneiderlin's early pass, for 1-0, then struck twice in the dying stages to overturn a 2-1 lead for the hosts. Both late strikes were emphatically converted from the penalty spot.

Continued on page 18

FOOTBALL FIXTURES for the week ahead

Chelsea (5.15pm), Sheff Wed v Charlton, Sunderland v SAINTS (12.45pm).

SKY BET FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Championship: Birmingham v Huddersfield, Bournemouth v Burnley, Doncaster v Barnsley, Ipswich v Blackpool, Millwall v Bolton, Watford v Middlesbrough.

League 1: Bristol City v Tranmere, Coventry v Bradford (Sixfields Stadium, 2pm), Crawley Town v Carlisle, Crewe v Brentford, Milton Keynes Dons v Oldham, Peterborough v Walsall, Preston v Leyton Orient, Rotherham v Stevenage, Shrewsbury v Port Vale (1pm), Swindon v Colchester, Wolverhampton v Notts County.

League 2: Burton Albion v Dag & Red, Bury v Bristol Rovers, Cheltenham v Wycombe, Chesterfield v Torquay, Fleetwood Town v Northampton, Hartlepool v Newport County, Oxford Utd v Mansfield, Plymouth v York, Portsmouth v AFC Wimbledon, Rochdale v Morecambe, Southend v Exeter.

SKRILL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Premier: Alfreton Town v Aldershot, Barnet v Tamworth, Braintree Town v Wrexham, Gateshead v Woking, Lincoln City v Kidderminster, Luton v Hereford, Macclesfield v Forest Green, Nuneaton v Hyde, Southport v Salisbury.

South: Basingstoke v Chelmsford, Bishops Cleeve v Hayes & Yeading, Boreham Wood v Eastbourne Borough, Dorchester Town v Bromley, Dover v Bath City, Ebbsfleet v Staines, Gosport Borough v Weston-super-Mare, Maidenhead v Concord Rangers, Sutton v Havant & Waterlooville, Tonbridge Angels v Eastleigh, Whitehawk v Farnborough.

CALOR SOUTHERN LEAGUE

Premier Division: Arlesey v Stourbridge, Bashley v Cambridge City, Bideford v St Albans, Biggleswade v Hitchin, Chesham v Frome, Corby v Truro, Hemel Hempstead v Chippenham, Hungerford v AFC Totton, Redditch v Poole Town, St Neots v Burnham, Weymouth v Banbury.

Division One South & West: Cinderford v Paulton, Clevedon v Bishops Cleeve, Evesham v North Leigh, Fleet Town v Didcot, Guildford v Stratford, Mangotsfield v Bridgwater, Shortwood v Godalming, Taunton v Merthyr Town, Thatcham v Yate, Tiverton v Swindon Supermarine, Wimborne v Cirencester.

FA VASE

Fifth round: Eastbourne Utd v Morpeth Town, Amphilh Town v Hanworth Town or Ashford Utd, Dunston UTS v Brightlingsea Regent, Sholing v Larkhall Athletic, Hadleigh Utd v Wisbech Town, Spennymoor Town v Newcastle Benfield, East Preston v St Andrews, West Auckland Town v Hallen.

SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE

Premier Division: AFC Portchester v Alresford Town, Bemerton HH v Newport IoW, Blackfield & Langley v Hamworthy Utd, Brockenhurst v Winchester City, Christchurch v Bournemouth Poppies, Downton v Fareham, Fawley AFC v Whitchurch, Hordean v Lymington Town, Moneyfields v Verwood, Totton & Eling v Folland Sports.

Division One: Andover NS v Andover Town, East Cowes Vics v New Milton, Hythe & Dibden v Hayling Utd, Laverstock & Ford v Cowes Sports, Petersfield v Amesbury, Pewsey Vale v US Portsmouth, Stockbridge v Ringwood, Team Solent v Fleet Spurs.

PUMA ENGINEERING HAMPSHIRE PREMIER LEAGUE

PEHPL Cup, quarter-finals: Baffins Milton Rovers v AFC Aldermaston, Paulsgrove v Overton.

Premier Division: Bournemouth Sports v Locks Heath, Clanfield v AFC Stoneham, Colden Common v Headley Utd, Fleetlands v Winchester Castle, Liss v Liphook, QK Southampton v Otterbourne.

Division One: Broughton v Upham, Bush Hill v Hamble Club, Four Marks v Durlay, Infinity v Michelmersh & Timbsbury, University of Portsmouth v Lyndhurst.

Combination: AFC Stoneham v Clanfield, Hamble Club v Liss, Hedge End Rangers v Fleetlands, Liphook Utd v Otterbourne, Michelmersh & Timbsbury v Paulsgrove.

NORTH HANTS INTERMEDIATE CUP

Semi-finals: Andover Lions v New Inn, Winchester Castle Res v Crusaders.

WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE

Premier Division: AFC Totton v Moneyfields.

Division One East: Alresford v Petersfield, Folland Sports v Hordean, Newport IoW v Colden Common, Tadley Calveva v Alton Town, US Portsmouth v Locks Heath.

Division One West: Lymington Town v Team Solent, Ringwood v Christchurch, Romsey v Laverstock & Ford, Verwood v East Cowes Vics.

TODAY'S LOCAL AND NATIONAL RESULTS - SEE BACK PAGE

CHERRIES FIXTURES

AUGUST

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------|------------|
| Sat 3 | Charlton (H) |W 2-1 |
| Grabban 2 | | |
| Tues 6 | P'mouth LC1 (H) | ...W 1-0 |
| O'Kane | | |
| Sat 10 | Watford (A) |L 1-6 |
| Grabban | | |
| Sat 17 | Wigan (H) |W 1-0 |
| Grabban | | |
| Sat 24 | Huddersfield (A) | ...L 1-5 |
| Pugh | | |
| Wed 28 | Watford (LC2) (A) | ...L 0-2 |
| Sat 31 | Doncaster (A) |W 1-0 |
| Pitman | | |

SEPTEMBER

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|------------|
| Sat 14 | Blackpool (H) |L 1-2 |
| Grabban | | |
| Tue 17 | Barnsley (H) |W 1-0 |
| Pugh | | |
| Sat 21 | Middlesbrough (A) | ...D 3-3 |
| Pitman (2), OG | | |
| Sat 28 | Blackburn (H) |L 1-3 |
| Fraser | | |

OCTOBER

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------|
| Tues 1 | Leeds (A) |L 1-2 |
| Grabban | | |
| Sat 5 | Millwall (H) |W 5-2 |
| Fraser, Cook, Arter, Grabban, Pitman | | |
| Sat 19 | Nottm Forest (A) | ...D 1-1 |
| Pugh | | |
| Sat 26 | Leicester (A) |L 1-2 |
| Pugh | | |

NOVEMBER

| | | |
|---------|--------------|------------|
| Sat 2 | Bolton (H) |L 0-2 |
| Sat 9 | Burnley (A) |D 1-1 |
| Rantie | | |
| Sat 23 | Derby (H) |L 0-1 |
| Sat 30 | Brighton (A) |D 1-1 |
| Ritchie | | |

DECEMBER

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------|------------|
| Tues 3 | QPR (A) |L 0-3 |
| Sat 7 | Reading (A) |W 2-1 |
| Grabban, Ritchie | | |
| Sat 14 | Birmingham(H) | ...L 0-2 |
| Sat 21 | Sheff Wed (A) |W 2-1 |
| Ritchie, Grabban | | |
| Thur 26 | Yeovil (H) |W 3-0 |
| Ritchie (2), O'Kane | | |
| Sun 29 | Ipswich (H) | ...D 1-1 |
| Pitman | | |

JANUARY

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------|
| Wed 1 | Brighton (A) |D 1-1 |
| Grabban | | |
| Sat 11 | Wigan (A) |L 3-0 |
| Sat 18 | Watford (H) |D 1-1 |
| Grabban | | |
| Sat 25 | Charlton (A) | ...Postponed |
| Tues 28 | Huddersfield (H) | ...W 2-1 |
| Grabban, Rantie | | |

FEBRUARY

| | | |
|--------|---------------|------------|
| Sat 1 | Leicester (H) |L 1-0 |
| Sat 8 | Bolton (A) |D 2-2 |
| Sat 15 | Burnley |(H) |
| Sat 22 | Derby |(A) |

MARCH

| | | |
|---------|---------------|----------|
| Sat 1 | Doncaster |(H) |
| Sat 8 | Blackpool |(A) |
| Wed 12 | Blackburn |(A) |
| Sat 15 | Middlesbrough |(H) |
| Sat 22 | Barnsley |(A) |
| Tues 25 | Leeds |(H) |
| Sat 29 | Birmingham |(A) |

APRIL

| | | |
|--------|--------------|----------|
| Sat 5 | QPR (H) | |
| Tues 8 | Reading |(H) |
| Sat 12 | Yeovil |(A) |
| Fri 18 | Sheff Wed |(H) |
| Mon 21 | Ipswich |(A) |
| Sat 26 | Notts Forest |(H) |

MAY

| | | |
|-------|----------|----------|
| Sat 3 | Millwall |(A) |
|-------|----------|----------|

Saints Spotlight

TON-DERFUL: LAMBO

From page 17

76&77) APRIL 9, 2012

CRYSTAL PALACE 0 SAINTS 2

Lambert struck twice as Saints moved to the brink of the Premier League. He headed Saints in front shortly before half-time, then completed the win by dropping a shoulder to go past the Palace backline and finish left-footed into the far corner for his 30th – and one of his best – of the season.

78) APRIL 13, 2012

SAINTS 1 READING 3

A disappointing night for Saints as they effectively lost any chance of the Championship title, but Lambert still had another strike to savour, lashing home a deflected shot that had made it 1-1.

79) AUGUST 19, 2012

MANCHESTER CITY 3 SAINTS 2

Surprisingly dropped by Nigel Adkins, Lambert responded to the snub by scoring within minutes of coming off the bench, striking a beautiful right-foot shot into the bottom corner from the edge of the area for his first ever top-flight goal. The strike had made it 1-1 on a dramatic afternoon against the Premier League champions.

80) SEPTEMBER 2, 2012

SAINTS 2 MANCHESTER UNITED 3

Another hard-luck loss to one of the Manchester clubs. It had all started so well, though, as Lambert rose above Rafael to head in Jason Puncheon's cross and put Saints in front. Robin van Persie's hat-trick ruined the day, however.

81&82) SEPTEMBER 22, 2012

SAINTS 4 ASTON VILLA 1

Having been 1-0 down at half-time, Saints soon levelled through Lambert's powerful low shot. The striker completed a first Premier League win of the season for the club with a penalty in added time.

83) NOVEMBER 17, 2012

QPR 1 SAINTS 3

With the losing manager in this one tipped for the sack, Lambert came up trumps for Nigel Adkins, heading Saints into an early lead as they won a vital battle at the foot of the table.

84) NOVEMBER 28, 2012

SAINTS 1 NORWICH 1

Lambert prodded home after Adam Lallana's free-kick had fallen to him via a couple of ricochets, but Saints' lead was cancelled out right on the stroke of half-time.

85) DECEMBER 26, 2012

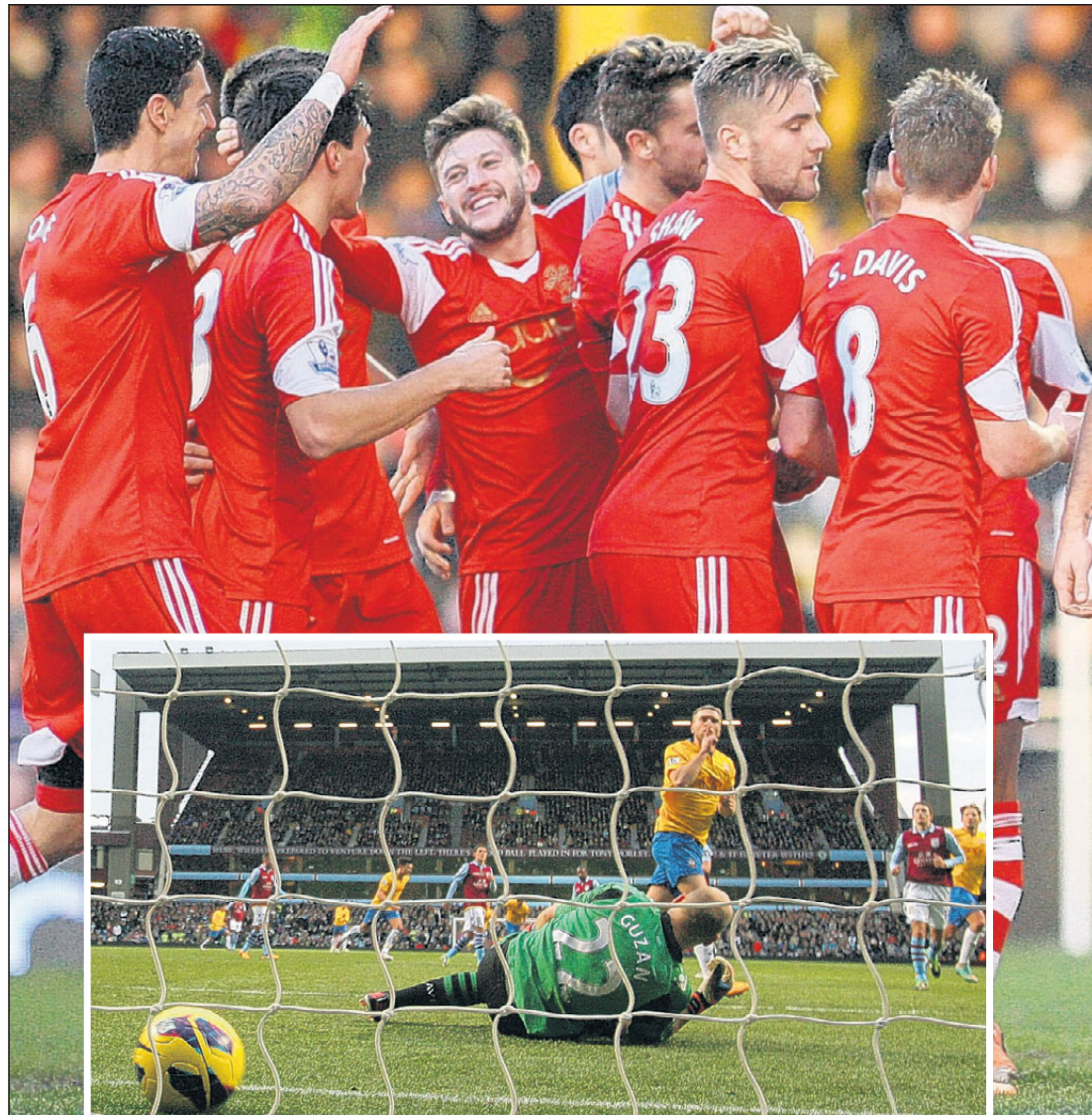
FULHAM 1 SAINTS 1

After former Saint Chris Baird inexplicably handled in his own area, Lambert stepped up to score a late penalty and earn a point. It was a nervous moment for the striker, though, as Mark Schwarzer nearly kept his effort out.

86) DECEMBER 29, 2012

STOKE 3 SAINTS 3

Guly do Prado's teasing delivery towards the back post picked out



NET GAIN: Rickie Lambert scores from the spot against Aston Villa in January 2013.

Lambert, who side-footed Saints into an early lead on what turned out to be a dramatic afternoon at the Britannia Stadium.

87) JANUARY 12, 2013
ASTON VILLA 0 SAINTS 1

Lambert earned Saints a vital three points with a first-half penalty, although he shouldn't have had the opportunity to take one, after Jay Rodriguez tumbled in the box without contact.

88) JANUARY 16, 2013

CHELSEA 2 SAINTS 2

Dropped by Adkins, who was in charge for the last time, Lambert responded in almost exactly the same fashion as he had on the opening day of the season, coming off the bench to head in a second half goal –

his tenth of the season – that made it 2-1, before Jason Puncheon struck to earn an unlikely point.

89) FEBRUARY 2, 2013
WIGAN 2 SAINTS 2

Lambert bravely nodded home an equaliser after half-time, being clattered by Wigan keeper Ali Al Habsi in the process, as Saints earned a point at the DW Stadium.

90) FEBRUARY 24, 2013
NEWCASTLE 4 SAINTS 2

Lambert, made it 100 Saints goal in all competitions and 90 in the league as he drilled home a low shot from Adam Lallana's pass to make it 2-2 early in the second half, with the goal fittingly coming against Alan Pardew, the man who signed him for the club.

91) MARCH 16, 2013
SAINTS 3 LIVERPOOL 1

Saints set themselves well on the way to securing Premier League survival with a memorable victory over Liverpool at St Mary's.

After Morgan Schneiderlin had opened the scoring, Lambert's deflected free kick made it 2-0 midway through the first half.

Philippe Coutinho pulled one back for Liverpool before the break but Jay Rodriguez sealed the win.

92) MARCH 20, 2013
SAINTS 2 CHELSEA 1

Another game against a Premier League giant at home, another win and another Lambert free kick.

All the goals came in a 12 minutes period in the first half.

After Jay Rodriguez's opener had

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Saints Spotlight

JOINS SAINTS GREATS



TON UP: Rickie Lambert celebrates netting his 100th league goal for Saints against Fulham at Craven Cottage.



GET IN: Rickie Lambert opens his 2013/14 account at West Brom.

been cancelled out by John Terry, Lambert curled home a free kick from 25 yards out for what proved to be the winner.

93) MAY 19, 2013 SAINTS 1 STOKE 1

Rickie Lambert made it 15 goals in his debut Premier League season as he scrambled home a second half equaliser after former St Mary's striker Peter Crouch had put Stoke into the lead.

94) AUGUST 17, 2013 WEST BROM 0 SAINTS 1

Just days after Lambert had come off the bench to make his England debut and bag the winner against Scotland at Wembley, he was lining up for Saints on the opening day of the season at The Hawthorns.

It was a tight game until Saints won an injury time penalty which Lambert duly dispatched.

95) SEPTEMBER 28, 2013 SAINTS 2 CRYSTAL PALACE 0

Dani Osvaldo and Rickie Lambert started this game together and both scored within the space of two second half minutes.

Osvaldo gave Saints the lead just after restart with his first goal for the club before Lambert fired home a trademark 25 yard free kick.

96) OCTOBER 26, 2013 SAINTS 2 FULHAM 0

Saints moved up to third in the Premier League table as they destroyed Fulham at St Mary's.

Lambert gave Saints the lead as he headed home after Jay Rodriguez

had flicked on James Ward-Prowse's corner before Rodriguez added the second.

97) NOVEMBER 9, 2013 SAINTS 4 HULL 1

Lambert was on target from the penalty spot once again, leaving Steve Harper flat footed after the keeper had brought down Adam Lallana to concede the spot kick, as Saints secured a comprehensive victory over Hull. Morgan Schneiderlin, Lallana and Steven Davis bagged the other goals.

98) DECEMBER 22, 2013 SAINTS 2 TOTTENHAM 3

Lambert levelled the game at 2-2 with a simple finish after good work from Adam Lallana but Saints ended up losing the match as Emmanuel

Adebayor scored his second of the game.

99) DECEMBER 26, 2013 CARDIFF 0 SAINTS 3

Saints scored three times in 13 minutes to grab a comfortable Boxing Day win at Cardiff.

Jay Rodriguez scored twice before Lambert fired home a half volley from a Rodriguez knock down.

100) FEBRUARY 1, 2013 FULHAM 0 SAINTS 3

Lambert made it a century of league goals for Saints as he swept home from 12 yards after being found by Nathaniel Clyne's low right-wing cross. Adam Lallana and Jay Rodriguez were also on target on a happy and memorable day for the Saints striker.

Francis off the mark to earn point

SIMON Francis bagged his first goal of the season as Cherries clawed back a 2-0 deficit to claim a deserved share of the spoils from their first visit to the Reebok Stadium.

The defender, whose only other goal for Cherries had come during a 3-1 home win over Tranmere in October 2012, netted a header to earn Eddie Howe's men a 2-2 draw.

Although Bolton raced into a 2-0 lead inside the opening 32 minutes thanks to goals from Chung-Yong Lee and Lukas Jutkiewicz, they rarely threatened again as Cherries ran the show.

Lewis Grabban's piledriver, which came just seconds after Jutkiewicz had struck, immediately halved the deficit before Cherries set about finding an equaliser.

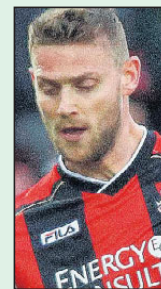
And, after Howe's team had dominated for long periods, their efforts were rewarded when Francis headed home Ian Harte's corner to level midway through the second half.

Cherries boss Howe made three changes to his starting line-up with defender Steve Cook drafted in to replace Elliott Ward, who was ruled out by a knee injury. Marc Pugh and Matt Ritchie also returned with Tokelo Rantie and Ryan Fraser dropping to the bench.

Midfielder Harry Arter was a concern for Cherries after turning his ankle during the warm-up.

However, following an impromptu fitness test just minutes before kick-off, he declared himself fit to start.

Arter certainly showed no ill effects as he went close to opening the scoring for Cherries, his rasping left-foot strike



SIMON FRANCIS

from 25 yards flashing narrowly past the post after just three minutes.

Francis also made another valuable contribution to Cherries performance with a great block tackle to deny Lee after the South Korean international had danced across the top of the 18-yard box.

Another plus point for Cherries was the performance of new signing Yann Kermorgant, on as a 65th-minute replacement for Pugh.

He almost netted with his first touch, the Frenchman's hooked effort clawed away by Bogdan diving to his right.

Kermorgant then turned provider for fellow substitute Rantie, although Bogdan raced off his line to spread himself and block from the South Africa international after 75 minutes.

HULL v SAINTS PREVIEW IN TUESDAY'S DAILY ECHO

SOUTHERN
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The jackpot for the following week will be £26,000 with £1,000 being added each week. The nearest miss prize will be £2,000 with £50 added each week until the jackpot prize reaches £50,000.

If there is still no entry showing the exact centre of the ball, the process is repeated until there is an exact centre of the ball winner.

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RESULTS



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An incident in an Eastleigh v Salisbury match



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Mrs J Gammon, Southampton, Hants
Mr G Glasspool, Southampton, Hants
Miss L Gumma, Eastleigh, Hants

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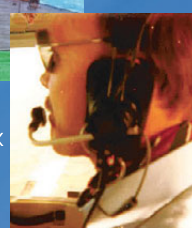


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Non-league Football

Non-league News

Vaughan is punished

A SYDENHAMS Wessex League manager has been hit with a four-match ban and a £400 fine by the Hampshire FA.

The county association charged Bournemouth Poppies' boss Ken Vaughan with improper conduct following comments made to referee Steve Barclay following a 1-0 defeat to Hamworthy United on Saturday, January 11.

Vaughan's verbal tirade had been prompted by his anger over Barclay's decision not to dismiss Hammers defender Dan Haysom, with the Victoria Park boss convinced Poppies top scorer Martin Warren had been denied an obvious goalscoring opportunity.

At his hearing, Vaughan was fined £200 with a further £200 added from an existing suspended penalty for a similar offence. Another suspended fine of £200 was implemented and could be imposed if Vaughan is charged again before May 31, 2016.

Asked whether the hefty sanction was fair, Vaughan, pictured above, said: "One hundred per cent and, of course, I regret what happened."

"I was fuming after the decision but, having said that, I have got to learn to keep my mouth shut whether I think the referee's call is good, bad or indifferent."

Vaughan's touchline ban starts next Wednesday (February 12).

Will knuckles down

WILL Spetch will be following manager Tom Killick's advice and focusing on his football at Poole Town after being snubbed by Port Vale.

League One outfit Vale told the 22-year-old defender they would not be following up their interest after he featured in a development squad friendly against Wolves last week.

And, with no offers forthcoming after trials with Cherries, Portsmouth, Huddersfield Town, AFC Wimbledon and the Valiants, Swanage-based Spetch is keen to keep his eyes on Poole's promotion prize until the end of the Calor Southern Premier campaign.

"I could not have done a lot more," the talented Dolphin, pictured above, confessed.

"The problem going to these places at my age is that you have to be quite a bit better than what they have."

"There comes a point where you have to draw a line under it and concentrate on playing."

Spetch, though, remains ambitious and stressed: "It's not dead and buried for me and I will still work towards getting my move."



Sholing fend off Poole's interest in Cuthbertson



TJ CUTHBERTSON

SHOLING appear to have successfully resisted Poole Town's attempts to sign right-back TJ Cuthbertson.

The ink had barely dried on Cuthbertson's transfer to the Boatmen from Sydenhams Premier rivals Blackfield & Langley when a seven-day notice of approach winged its way in from Poole.

With Sam Clarke announcing his unavailability due to work commitments, Dolphins boss Tom Killick – a long-time admirer of Cuthbertson – felt the former Portsmouth, Eastleigh and Winchester man

would make an ideal addition for his side's Calor Southern Premier promotion run-in.

But Cuthbertson lives just a stone's throw away from Sholing's Portsmouth Road ground and Boatmen's boss Dave Diaper said the player was "adamant" he wanted to stay with the Wessex top-flight title favourites.

Killick admitted: "It is always difficult to persuade players in the Wessex League who are relatively well rewarded to make the extra commitment required at our level. "Financially, Sholing

are still a Southern League club and you can understand players who want to earn money for fewer hours on the road."

"When we were in the Wessex, we benefited from the same situation when Southern League clubs came calling."

"We are still talking to TJ, but I am also actively looking elsewhere."

Southampton-based Cuthbertson, then a striker, signed a two-year scholarship for Portsmouth as a 16-year-old in 2005.

Following his release from Fratton Park he had a spell at Eastleigh

and, for the past two seasons, has been part of Sydenhams Premier championship-winning sides at Winchester and Blackfield.

Speaking after Killick had lodged notice of approach for the 24-year-old, Sholing boss Diaper said he didn't blame his Poole counterpart for trying.

"To be fair to Tom, I think he'd already got his eye on TJ and he's only doing his job," he said.

"Poole have got a hell of a run-in and he obviously thinks his squad needs adding to. I understand that, we've all been in those positions."

"I never waive the seven days on principle, but TJ's adamant he wants to stay with us."

Cuthbertson made an unhappy return to his old club Blackfield on Tuesday when, in dismal conditions, Sholing were beaten 3-1 by the reigning Wessex champions – their first defeat of the Sydenhams Premier season.

Diaper, though, was happy with his new addition, saying: "TJ played well. He can fill in at centre-half and he had to on Tuesday after we lost Lee Bright and Pete Castle to injury."

DIAPER FACING AN INJURY HEADACHE

Wendy Gee

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER



AS Dave Diaper watched his much-fancied Sholing side slither to their first Sydenhams Premier defeat of the season at gale-hit Gang Warily on Tuesday, he couldn't help but fret about their FA Vase prospects.

It wasn't so much the 3-1 scoreline that concerned the boss, but the sight of three players going off injured.

Central midfielder Alex Sawyer was the first to make his exit and then came the painful double-whammy of losing twin centre-backs Lee Bright and Pete Castle.

Of the two, Castle is giving most cause for concern.

The big former Reading, Bashley and AFC Totton defender sustained a knee injury in pre-season that sidelined him for six weeks and Diaper fears the same problem has come back to haunt him.

It almost certainly rules Castle out of next Saturday's massive FA Vase last-16 clash at home to Larkhall Athletic and could potentially keep him out until March.

"I've got a feeling this is a recurrence of the knee injury Pete got in pre-season and he's looking at

three to four weeks out," said Diaper.

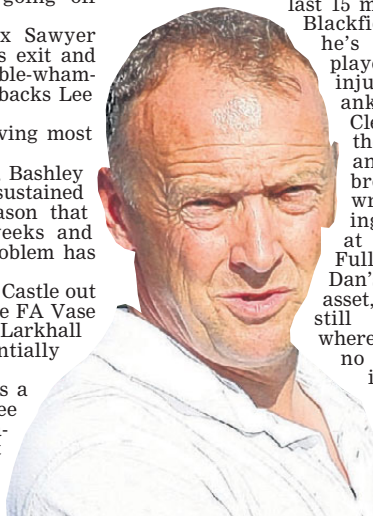
"Lee Bright's is a calf strain but he's not available in any case on Saturday (today) because he's going away and I don't think he's back until Thursday."

"Central defender-wise, it leaves us thin on the ground. Mike Carter would normally cover there, but he's out after cutting a tendon in his thumb at work."

"We've also had Tyrone Bowers out after injuring his back playing badminton and Marc Diaper's been working."

"Young Danny Miller went on to cover for Pete for the last 15 minutes at Blackfield, but

he's hardly played. He injured his ankle at Clevedon in the FA Cup and then broke his wrist playing netball at college. Fully fit, Dan's a great asset, but he's still rusty where he's had no continuity of games."



WORRIED: Sholing boss Dave Diaper.

Rewind a month and everything in the Sholing garden was rosy with practically a full-strength squad available and not a single defeat in the league.

But the recent spate of wet-weather postponements has slowed their momentum, giving Diaper an added headache as he attempts to plot the downfall of a Larkhall side topping the Toolstation Western League with a near perfect record of 21 wins and a draw from 22 games.

As Tuesday's result showed, the Sydenhams Premier title is by no means a done deal for Sholing – albeit that leaders Winchester City came a cropper too that night, beaten 3-0 at fourth-placed Alresford Town.

It means the Boatmen remain well-placed, just a point behind City with six games in hand, but Diaper knows it could all too easily slip away.

"In a way Winchester losing was a good result for us, but I still think Alresford are a threat," Diaper said. "They've played us twice, Winchester twice and Blackfield once and I can't see them losing too many games."

All being well with the weather, Sholing are due to host Conference South outfit Farnborough in the Russell Cotes Cup quarter-final on Tuesday, but that too presents a dilemma. It's not a must-win competition for the Boatmen but Diaper will be wary of resting too many first-team regulars.

"I don't want to get hammered," he said. "I'd hate us to go into the Vase game on the back of a seven or eight-goal defeat."



PETE CASTLE

Non-league Football



B&L THROW TITLE RACE WIDE OPEN

BLACKFIELD & Langley sent a huge message out to the Sydenhams Wessex Premier Division this week: Sholing are not invincible.

After a run of 21 league games without defeat, Dave Diaper's title favourites were gunned down 3-1 by the reigning league champions in torrid conditions at Gang Warilyn on Tuesday, marking the greatest achievement of Kevin Gibbens' fledgling managerial career.

Prior to spearheading Blackfield's title charge last season, ex-Saint Gibbens was eight years a Sholing man, captaining the Boatmen and oozing quality, be it in central midfield, up top or doing the occasional shift in central defence.

But on Tuesday the Watersiders' recently appointed player-boss, pictured left, came back to haunt his old club.

Gibbens brilliantly marshalled his troops in a central defensive role and watched on with satisfaction as goals by Neil Williams, Craig Feeney and new signing Jack Satterley turned the game on its head after Ashley Jarvis had given Sholing a 15th-minute lead.

It hasn't been the easiest of times for Blackfield of late with Gibbens' predecessor Glenn Burnett and a handful of key players leaving.

But, aided by assistant manager Chris Farrell, Gibbens has impressively steadied the ship – much to the delight of chairman Owen Lightfoot.

Reflecting on a brilliant result for Blackfield, Lightfoot said afterwards: "This shows that the lads who've stayed after our little upheaval are still putting heart and soul into it.

"Kev (Gibbens) played centre-back tonight and he's leading by example. He's doing a good job rallying the troops.

"The conditions weren't ideal, but the ref

Wendy Gee

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

tried to let the game flow and the lads put in a good all-round performance. I can't praise them enough."

Although the weather looked promising when Lightfoot checked the pitch mid-afternoon, rain and howling wind closed in and the chairman admitted: "If there had been an inspection at half-time, it wouldn't have been played."

Sholing boss Dave Diaper agreed: "There was nothing wrong with the pitch and I was happy until about ten minutes before half-time, 1-0 up and kicking against the wind.

"But the wind got up to about 80mph and at one stage we took a goal kick, the ball went up into the air and was blown back from the halfway line into our box!"

By half-time Blackfield were 2-1 up and Satterley added a third for good measure in the second half.

"At half-time I said to the lads we can still do this with the wind in Blackfield's faces, but we didn't turn up for the second-half and it didn't help losing two centre-halves (Lee Bright and Pete Castle) to injury," said Diaper.

"Blackfield had something to defend and they went about it the right way.

"Gibbo was talking to his back four all the time and that's where you're at an advantage as a player-manager because in those conditions, it was hard to get instructions onto the pitch.

"But fair play to Blackfield, they dealt with the conditions better than we did.

"I was very impressed with their new lad Jack Satterley up front. He's got great movement and looks like a proper footballer."

Non-league News

Moore's Bristol move

FORMER Brading Town goalkeeper Simon Moore has joined Bristol City on loan for the rest of the season.

Isle of Wight lad Moore – son of former Brading boss and Roadsea Southampton goalkeeper, Phil – signed a four-year contract for Premier League new boys Cardiff City during the summer after an outstanding spell at Brentford where he kept 13 clean sheets in 52 appearances last season.

During his time at Griffin Park the 23-year-old, who came through the Saints Academy, cemented a reputation as one of the most highly-rated young stoppers in the country and Bristol City boss Steve Cotterill, right, has described him as the "best goalkeeper in League One last season".

Moore made a winning debut for Bristol last Saturday in a 2-1 League One win over Carlisle United.

It was his first senior appearance since turning out for Brentford in the League One play-off final at Wembley in May.

While delighted to have helped City to an important victory, which lifted them out of the bottom four, Moore was unhappy to have been beaten at his new post by a Brad Potts free kick.

He admitted afterwards: "I'm a bit rusty after not playing League football for six or seven months.

"But as soon as you let a goal in, you have to forget about it, move on and go for the three points. Fortunately that is what the boys did."

Eastleigh count again

EASTLEIGH have revised the official attendance for last Saturday's FA Trophy quarter-final against Cambridge United.

On the day the crowd was announced as 757, but it transpires that certain areas of the ground were omitted from the count.

Under police instruction, the Spitfires had to segregate supporters for the last-eight clash, which ended 1-0 in Cambridge's favour – hence the confusion.

A club statement said: "Further to the announcement of the match attendance at the game against Cambridge United on Saturday, it has come to light that the figure given was incorrect as allowances had not been brought into consideration for admittance to certain areas of the ground.

"This has now been advised to the Football Association, and also Cambridge United, and the official declared attendance should read 957, which included 191 spectators from Cambridge United.

"We apologise for this issue which we are pleased to have rectified."

CONFERENCE South neighbours Havant & Waterlooville and Gosport Borough are on a semi-final collision course in the FA Trophy, but the pair have been kept apart in the last four of the Hampshire FA Senior Cup.

With the county cup final due to be held at Fratton Park this season, it's fitting that there are three Portsmouth area teams though to the last

Fratton finale tempts Pompey trio

four. The odd ones out are Jason Bristow's Basingstoke Town, also of the Conference South, who have been handed an away tie at Gosport.

Havant, meanwhile, will host this season's surprise Sydenhams Wessex Premier package AFC Portchester, who are going great guns under head coach Graham Rix.

Although, on paper, the Hawks have drawn the easier tie, manager Lee Bradbury knows from bitter past experience that lower league sides should not be taken lightly.

Last year Havant were dumped out of the competition by Sholing – then a Southern One South & West side. But, chas-

tened by that experience, they ensured lightning didn't strike this year when they beat Dave Diaper's Boatmen 3-0 in the third round.

"We went back to Sholing this season and won well," said Bradbury. "I like to think we now take all games equally seriously and want to win."

The Havant versus Portchester match has special significance for both management teams.

Bradbury played under Rix at Portsmouth and Oxford United and was a Bournemouth teammate of ex-Saint Jake Thomson who recently joined the Wicor Rec ranks.

And for Portchester's

director of football Mick Jenkins it's the chance to return to the club he served as player, manager and director.

Bradbury said of Thomson: "I know what he's capable of and, on his day, he is probably the best player in their league."

The county cup semi-finals are due to be played in the week commencing Monday, March 3.

Non-league Football

Non-league News

League award time

TWO of the Skrill Football Conference manager-of-the-month awards for January went to men with local ties.

Salisbury-born ex-Saint Martin Foyle took the Premier Division accolade for leading Hereford United through the month undefeated – and all against the backdrop of the Bulls' financial worries off the pitch.

The Conference South award went to ex-Eastleigh boss Paul Doswell whose Sutton United side won both their matches in a weather-reduced programme to keep their play-off push on course.

Synchronised start

AS in previous seasons, the matches on the final day of the Skrill Conference Premier season will all kick off at the same time.

The April 26 round of matches will start at 5.30pm with one selected live for broadcast by BT Sport.

Skrill South and North games remain unaffected with normal 3pm kick-offs.

Skrill deal is ended

THE Football Conference is seeking new sponsors for next season and beyond.

Its three-year deal with online payment company Skrill will end after just 12 months.

Skrill agreed a deal with the league in July 2013, ending a two-month search for a sponsor of the Conference Premier, North and South divisions.

But the two parties have mutually agreed to end their arrangement prematurely.

A statement on the Conference website explained: "Skrill has undergone a number of changes since the agreement was entered into and will be aligning any future sponsorship activity to its global strategy."

"Both parties wish each other every success for the future."

Town snap up Nick

LONG-SERVING former Folland Sports goalkeeper Nick O'Donnell has signed for Sydenhams Premier outfit Lymington Town.

O'Donnell moves to Southampton Road from Romsey Town, whom he joined earlier this season.

The experienced stopper has also played for Brockenhurst and Fareham, but spent the bulk of his career at Follands Park.

Milton switch for Luc

TOTTEN & Eling have signed midfielder Luciano Ramos from New Milton Town to aid their Sydenhams Premier survival fight.

Ramos – described on the New Milton website as "a huge talent" – had two spells at Fawcett's Field, sandwiching a stint at Brockenhurst in between.

Could this be Havant's year for Trophy redemption

HAVANT & Waterlooville hope to make it second time lucky when they take on Conference South neighbours Gosport Borough in an all-Hampshire FA Trophy semi-final next week.

Lee Bradbury's Hawks blew away ten-man Aldershot Town 4-1 in Tuesday's quarter-final to join Gosport, Eastleigh's

conquerors Cambridge United and Grimsby Town in the last four.

And this time they will be hoping to go one better than in the 2002/03 season when they narrowly missed out on a trip to Wembley after losing 2-1 on aggregate to Tamworth during Liam Daish and Mick Jenkins' time in charge.

The Hawks soundly pun-

ished an Aldershot side who had midfielder Jordan Roberts needlessly red-carded shortly before half-time.

The Shots – 21 places above H&W in the non-League pyramid – were seemingly in command until 20-year-old Roberts petulantly kicked Perry Ryan in an off-the-ball clash.

That was all the invitation Havant needed to seize control and they stunned the north Hampshire visitors with two goals in five minutes early in the second half.

First Dennis Oli climbed above the Shots defence to head home a corner and then impressive Frenchman Nigel Atangana doubled the lead from 25 yards.

Seemingly revelling in the wet and windy conditions, Havant continually hit their Conference Premier visitors on the break.

Ex-Eastleigh loan striker Bradley Bubb went close for the Shots, but two goals in three minutes midway through the second half sealed their fate.

Former Newport IoW utility man Alek Przespolewski

– a Sydenhams Wessex title winner with Winchester City – chipped in the first from 20 yards before Nic Ciardini sealed it by curling in a sublime 25-yarder.

Shots' ex-Eastleigh frontman Brett Williams hit back from the penalty spot after Dan Strugnell had brought him down and ex-Saint

Matt Paterson had an effort ruled out for offside.

Wendy Gee

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

JAMIE Brown says people can talk all they like about "minnows" – it will never take the shine off Gosport Borough's amazing achievement of reaching the FA Trophy semi-finals.

When the Borough boys – Wessex League champions of 2006/07 – gate-crashed the Skrill Conference South last summer following successive Southern League promotions, former Eastleigh midfielder Brown predicted they would be the south coast equivalent of Wimbledon's 'Crazy Gang'.

The Dons proved that being unfashionable and unfancied was no barrier to success when they pulled off one of the FA Cup's greatest ever shocks, beating Liverpool 1-0 in the 1988 Wembley final.

Now, following last Saturday's remarkable 2-1 quarter-final success at North Ferriby United, Gosport are just 180 minutes away from a Wembley appearance of their own.

NEIGHBOURS

And, intriguingly, the club standing between them and a dream date at the home of English football are neighbours Havant & Waterlooville who saw off Aldershot Town 4-1 in Tuesday's delayed quarter-final.

"It's brilliant," smiled Southampton-based former Eastleigh midfielder Brown, the proud owner of Borough's captain's armband.

"Seven years ago Gosport were a Wessex League club and now we're in the semis of the FA Trophy."

"People can call us minnows, they can call us what they like. I'm sure our lads will take it on the chin."

When the quarter-final draw was made last month, it looked for all the world as if Borough – struggling one off the foot of the Conference South – had drawn the short straw away to a North Ferriby side sitting top of the Conference North.

But Alex Pike's men took the 260-mile journey to Hull in their stride, taking a shock 2-0 lead into half-time and holding strong for a historic 2-1 victory.

"The flip side of our Trophy success is that we're second to

bottom of the league but, because of that, I don't think teams give us enough respect," said Brown.

"We're probably in a false position in the league because we've got games in hand but, saying that, I'd rather have the points."

Unlike most Conference South teams, Gosport are made up largely of locally-based players, many of whom made their name in the lower league ranks.

The likes of Danny Smith and Andy Forbes were key components of Winchester City's 2004 FA Vase-winning machine, while silky-skilled winger Mike Gosney learned his trade at AFC Totton and graced Wembley with the Stags in the 2007 Vase final.

But it was Gosport's two experienced ex-Football League campaigners – Sammy Igoe and Tim Sills – who gunned North Ferriby down.

Ex-Pompey, Reading and Swindon man Igoe, 38, struck first on nine minutes after the home side had failed to cut out Mike Gosney's cross.

Then, just after the half-hour, Brown's shot fell for Romsey-born ex-Oxford, Torquay and Hereford striker Sills, 34, to clinically turn and bury. Some described Brown's contribution to the second goal as a scuffed shot, others as an insightful pass. The truth, laughed the no-

nonsense midfielder where in between

GOOD G

"I didn't pick smiled. "I've scored good goals this tried to drill the ball hit it with power catch it completely it's landed at Sills' feet."

"He's turned a keeper the wrong

Borough's Wembley dream is so close

COMMITTED: Gosport Borough's Ex-Eastleigh man Jamie Brown goes to ground in the clash between Borough and the Spitfires earlier this season.



MORE NON-LEAGUE NEWS

Non-league Football



Warrior Brown forced to sit out semi-final first-leg

THE one blot on Jamie Brown's FA Trophy euphoria was a tenth booking of the season at North Ferriby.

It means the warrior-like midfielder begins a two-match sus-

pension next Saturday, February 15 – the day of the first leg of the semi-final at Havant & Waterlooville's Westleigh Park.

The good news for Brown, however, is that Gosport are due to play a league game at Maidenhead United the following Tuesday, freeing him up for the

return leg at Privett Park on February 22.

Brown had been unaware that Saturday's was his tenth booking and was on the crest of a semi-final wave – until news of his ban hit home on Monday. What made it worse was that the experienced 32-year-old knew it could have

been avoided.

"It's one of the worst bookings I've got. I'm better than that," he said. "The lad (I fouled) was going away from goal as well. Until then, I hadn't given a foul away all game."

Despite his disappointment, the Southampton-based former BAT, Dorchester

Town and Eastleigh man makes no excuses for his whole-hearted approach to football.

"If I didn't tackle I wouldn't be playing in the Wessex League, let alone the Conference South," he said.

"I know what I can and can't do and although I might miss a few (tackles), I win a lot

more. It's a bit of a kick in the goolies that this suspension should land on the semi-final date, but at least I'll be back for the second leg – as long as the Maidenhead game's on. I might be a groundsman for the day to make sure it is," he joked.



"Seven years ago Gosport were a Wessex League club and now we're in the FA Trophy semi-finals."



BOSS: Gosport's Alex Pike.

Boro boss pokes fun at Eastleigh

JUBILANT Gosport Borough boss Alex Pike had a playful dig back at Eastleigh after his side's astounding progress into the FA Trophy semi-finals.

As a prelude to last Saturday's 2-1 quarter-final triumph at North Ferriby United, Borough – second to bottom of the Skril Conference South – had pulled off a priceless 1-0 league win at play-off chasing Weston-super-Mare.

It was a result that raised a few eyebrows around the league, not least at title tips Eastleigh who had suffered a 3-2 defeat at Woodspring Park just four days earlier.

When news came through of Borough's victory, Spitfires boss Richard Hill said: "I believe we've done Gosport a favour today."

"They've gone to Weston and won and you wouldn't have thought that would have been possible with the way Weston played (against Eastleigh) the other night."

"They (Weston) were probably dead on their feet because they put so much effort into the Tuesday night game."

Those comments were greeted with some amusement by Pike who has gone on record as being a big admirer of Hill and his pedigree Eastleigh side.

But even he thought it was a bit cheeky of his Silverlake opposite number to claim some of the credit on Eastleigh's behalf for Gosport's Weston win.

Speaking on BBC Radio Solent after goals by Sammy Igoe and Tim Sills had fired Gosport to within 180 minutes of a Trophy final at Wembley, Pike – tongue planted firmly in cheek – said: "What's good about the cup run is that it's given us confidence to go into our league programme and win games, which we did last week at Weston-super-Mare."

"And what's good about coming up to North Ferriby, top of the Conference (North) and winning, is that Eastleigh can't take any credit for it whatsoever."

"I don't think they loosened up North Ferriby for us this week!"

Non-league News

International swoop

CALOR Southern Premier strugglers Bashley have enlisted the help of a Bermuda international to help drag them out of the relegation mire.

Taurean Manders, a 28-year-old midfielder/defender currently based in Southampton, took part in six World Cup qualifiers for his country in 2011 and has amassed 13 caps since making his debut against Barbados a decade ago.

Much-travelled Manders, son of Bermuda international cricketer Andre Manders, plied his trade in America with Bradenton

Academics before moving to Canada for spells with Capital City and York Region Shooters. A stint in Antigua followed with Barracuda FC.

Bash received international clearance for their new player last Saturday, by which time their scheduled home match against Bedford had been postponed following heavy rain. That game has been rearranged for Tuesday, April 1 (7.45pm).

Coker goes to Town

HARVEY Coker has left Sydenhams Premier Division club Downton to join Wiltshire neighbours Amesbury Town in Division One.

Coker links up with brother

Callum, who moved back to Amesbury earlier this season from Petersfield Town.

Town have also added experienced striker Eddie Perrett to their squad from Andover Town.

Perrett, pictured, is a well-known player in Wiltshire having previously turned out for Laverstock & Ford and Bemerton Heath Harlequins.

Moving in the other direction is Craig Lewis, who has returned to Downton from Amesbury.

Downton boss Jeff Softley has also signed ex-Hamble Club player Andrew Longland to aid the Robins' Sydenhams Premier survival quest.

Champs get Chris

REIGNING Wessex champions Blackfield & Langley have signed left-sided midfielder Chris Elliott from Sydenhams One outfit East Cowes Vics.

Elliott boasts previous Premier Division experience with Cowes Sports and, more recently, Newport IoW, whom he joined in 2012 after returning from college in Kentucky, USA.

While in the States, he scored eight goals playing for Union College Bulldogs, and went on to turn out for Cincinnati Kings.

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GOALS

him out!" he ed some quite season and I ball straight. I c, but I didn't ely right and y's feet.

and sent the way.

"Sammy and Sillsy have both played higher and those sort of games don't bother them, they've been there millions of times before."

"I know it still means a lot to them, but their experience means they can be a bit more relaxed."

Brown, though, stressed that Saturday's triumph was a very much a team effort. "No one hid," he said. "Those who are not tacklers still tackled and

those who don't normally head the ball headed it."

"We definitely deserved the win. There was no luck in it at all."

North Ferriby boss Billy Heath felt his side's tough January schedule had caught up with them, saying there were "individuals who didn't produce the quality they usually do week in week out."

But Brown suspects vanquished Villagers fell into the

trap of underestimating Borough. "Apparently North Ferriby thought we'd be 'leggy' going all the way up there, but we travelled up on the Friday and 'The Minnows' actually trained at Derby County's training ground on the way!" he revealed.

Asked about the atmosphere on the journey home, the skipper said: "It was great, the same old Gosport mates enjoying a beer or two together."

Non-league Football

Non-league News

Stags add three new signings

AFC TOTTON have welcomed in three new players to boost their Calor Southern Premier Division survival fight.

The Stags have signed Caleb Porter on a permanent basis from relegation rivals Bashley, while AFC Bournemouth development squad duo Lewis Lindsay and Harrison Gilkes have agreed short-term loan deals.

Porter, pictured below, is a versatile midfielder and former Brockenhurst Academy player who made it to the fringes of Bashley's first-team squad after signing for them last summer and impressing for the reserves.

He has already played against Totton this season, going on as a second-half substitute in the Stags' 3-1 home win back in August.

Manager Steve Riley has also recruited two bright, young Cherries to strengthen attack and defence. Lindsay, 19, plies his trade at centre-back, while pacy 20-year-old



wideman Gilkes is the son of former Reading winger and Saints loanee Michael, who now assists

Jason Bristow at Basingstoke Town.

Gilkes impressed on a loan spell with Wessex League outfit New Milton Town two seasons ago, but his stay was cut short by a broken arm.

Former New Milton and Blackfield & Langley boss Glenn Burnett is a big fan of the youngster and once said: "Harrison's a fabulous player. I said to him two years ago that I'd be surprised if I didn't see him on TV one day."

The three additions have been warmly welcomed by Totton boss Steve Riley, who said: "We've got a lot of games coming up and it's good to have a few fresh faces in."

"Bournemouth are very helpful when it comes to loaning out young players and we've got a good relationship with them."

While second-to-bottom Totton's game at Biggleswade Town was postponed last Saturday, it was a profitable afternoon for one of the sides above them. St Neots beat Banbury United 3-1, casting the Stags 16 points adrift of fourth-to-bottom safety.

THE debate over the pros and cons of artificial pitches is set to continue.

The fight for the introduction of 3G (third generation) pitches hit the headlines last week when a proposal to allow synthetic surfaces in the Skriff Football Conference was defeated by 21 votes to 11.

That has got local clubs talking and, in the view of Steve Cuss – manager of Calor Southern One South & West outfit Wimborne Town – 3G pitches get a big thumbs up.

Debate over artificial pitches

Cuss, who doubles up as head of AFC Bournemouth's Community Sports Trust, said: "I'm in big favour of 3G pitches."

"We've had experience of playing on one at Merthyr Town and I've done plenty of coaching on them."

"I really like them and it's got to be the way forward if clubs can find the finances for them."

"It allows you to play more

football and also helps youth development."

"We've got lots of junior sides at our place and, instead of playing in the mud on a Saturday morning, they can play on a 3G pitch."

"We enjoyed playing at Merthyr and we'd have no complaints if more clubs got 3G surfaces."

Havant & Waterlooville's ex-

AFC Bournemouth boss Lee Bradbury had a differing view, however.

Although the Hawks face a growing backlog of fixtures due to multiple wet-weather postponements on traditional grass pitches, he believes the introduction of 3G playing surfaces would ruin the game – and be potentially harmful to players.

"It would slow the game up

and virtually take tackling out of the equation," he said.

"Even when training on 3G facilities at South Downs College, we have to be careful."

"The extra twisting and turning can take a huge toll on joints and cause problems for players coming back from injury."

As things stand, Maidstone United – who already have a 3G

Inconsistency driving Town boss Adie mad

Wendy Gee

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NON-LEAGUE REPORTER

VERWOOD Town boss Adie Arnold could do with some streetwise additions in his squad.

Arnold says the Potters' naivety is enough to drive him round the bend – despite it helping to secure a last-ditch 1-1 draw at Bemerton Heath Harlequins last Saturday.

And he admitted afterwards: "We could do with a couple of experienced players to push us forward and give us the know-how to kill off games or win ugly, but they are difficult to find without money."

Verwood rescued a Sydenhams Premier point in the fourth minute of added time at Western Way in the only Wessex League game to survive last weekend's monsoon.

Bemerton's former Christchurch and Poppies goalkeeper Max Frampton upended frontrunner Jack Lovell in the penalty area and ex-AFC Bournemouth and AFC Totton defender Matt Oldring did the honours from the spot.

But while Arnold, pictured below, was full of praise for his players' never-say-die attitude, he conceded his raw rookies would need more nous to make a greater impact on the Wessex top flight.

"It came very late, but the equaliser was thoroughly deserved on the back of a really good performance," he said.



"Fair play to Bemerton, they know exactly how to play at this level and have two very sharp, experienced strikers. They reacted to a second

DANNY'S TASTE OF DERBY DAY DELIGHT

ALRESFORD Town co-manager Danny Robinson hailed a great team performance after their local derby win over table-topping Winchester City in the Sydenhams Premier Division on Tuesday at a wet and windy Arlesbury Park.

Dominic Cope and Warren Bentley, pictured, put the Magpies 2-0 up by half-time before Zach Glasspool sealed victory, scoring directly from a corner.

City showed their pedigree as they were denied by the woodwork through Lloyd Webber and Daryl Phillips, but it wasn't enough.

"We'd been chomping at the bit to get back and play after the FA Vase match, and I have to say the whole team were brilliant," said Robinson, whose side lost 2-0 to Bristol-based Hallen in fourth round of the Vase two weeks ago.

"Each of them put in a shift and to get a clean sheet too is an added bonus."

The result cut the deficit to nine points between the two sides with Alresford commanding four games in hand over Neil Hards' table-toppers, who hold a precarious lead with title favourites Sholing and Blackfield & Langley also in hot pursuit.

"It is our target to finish second to Sholing," said Robinson.

"It sounds clichéd but we just need to

concentrate on every game as it comes now. I think we can meet our target."

Looking back on Tuesday's victory, Robinson said: "I've never known conditions like it."

"It was that bad. The elements affected the game but it was just really good to get back and play some football."

"We've kept training, kept them sharp. They're a fit side anyway so they've kept that going when we haven't had many games because of postponements."

"Apart from a few shots I felt they (Winchester) didn't really trouble us."

"We played our own game and I'm delighted to get a result over our local rivals."

Writing on the Winchester fans' forum, City's director of football Dave Malone said: "Everyone was very disappointed with the result – and rightly so!"

"The conditions were appalling, but take nothing away from Alresford, they fully deserved the three points."

"That said, we hit the crossbar twice and spurned at least five good chances."

"Had any of those been goals, who knows what the score might have been."

ball and got their goal (through Danny Young).

"But, as frustrating as it can be for a manager, the beauty of the fact we are quite naïve is that we also do not know when we're beaten."

"The lads just keep plugging away and we got our rewards against one of the better sides in the division."

"Playing like that at somewhere like Bemerton sums up our season

really. It is the inconsistency that does my head in! There is no in between with us, we're either brilliant or shocking."

"In one way it shows how far we have come and perhaps we (the management team) expect too much, but I want to keep on pushing."

Verwood played out another 1-1 draw on Tuesday away at rock-bot-

tom Romsey Town.

Amid driving wind and rain, the Potters fell behind to a scrambled Danny Phillips goal from a corner shortly before half-time, but hit back through Charlie Gajic with seven minutes to go.

Arnold, meanwhile, has completed the signing of former Bashley and Christchurch striker Carl Foster.

Non-league Football



in non-league rumbles on...

pitch – would be unable to gain promotion from the Ryman Premier to the Conference South with an artificial surface.

The 'pro' 3G lobby argue that all-weather pitches make financial common sense for non-League clubs, drastically reducing the number of postponements and enabling clubs to hire the surface out for community use.

But with 3G pitches not permitted in the Football League either, it would prove problematic for the Football Conference if their sides were ruled out of promotion from the Premier Division.

Eastleigh manager Richard Hill attended last week's Conference meeting in which the 3G proposal was rejected. He declined to say how

Eastleigh had voted but, having experienced the Maidstone pitch in the FA Trophy earlier in the season, he is convinced that knowing the quirks of a synthetic surface give the home club a head start.

Hill's Spitfires came through a tight tie 2-1 at Maidstone, but he said: "It (having a 3G pitch) is an advantage, I don't care what you say. You only have to look

at Maidstone's home record to see that.

"Twelve months before we played there, they knocked Salisbury City out of the FA Trophy at home and, for the first 20 minutes or so, they put us under so much pressure that we could have lost the tie because of their knowledge of the pitch.

Maidstone intend to take the fight all the way and are

demanding a compromise which would allow artificial pitches in the Conference South and North divisions initially. 3G pitches are already in use in the Champions' League and World Cup qualifying fixtures and Stones co-owner Oliver Nash insisted: "The Conference simply cannot continue avoiding the issue.

"It's difficult to get your head around how you can play World Cup games on 3G but not a match involving two semi-professional teams."

Non-league News

Poppies' double swoop

BOURNEMOUTH Poppies have strengthened their attacking options with two signings from Dorset neighbours Hamworthy United.

Diane Bassiriki, pictured below, was previously at Southern League outfit Poole Town before finishing 2012/13 with the Hammers.

Sam Pekun is also new in at Victoria Park having spent the last two seasons at Hamworthy.

The pair, both strikers, had found first-team opportunities hard to come by at the County Ground since new manager Graham Kemp arrived in November.

Their inactivity alerted the attention of Poppies boss Ken Vaughan who has top scorer Martin Warren and fellow frontman Connor Phillips struggling with injury as Bournemouth attempt to put more daylight between themselves and the Sydenhams Premier relegation zone.

Thanking his counterpart Kemp for allowing the transfers to go through immediately, the relieved Vaughan said: "I was pleased to get hold of them because both players have something different about them.

"From what I have seen, they have good pace, a bit of trickery and that little bit of quality when it matters.

"Hopefully they will blend in nicely and give us that different dimension to our play.

"They have only had bit-part roles (at Hamworthy) and I have had my eye on them for some time now.

"It was an ideal opportunity to get things settled down with so many tough games coming up."

Warren, currently sidelined with a groin strain, had been playing through the pain barrier for some time.

"We have known for a while that Martin needed to rest up for a few weeks and he could be out for a while," said Vaughan.

"He kept coming back too early because we needed his presence up there, so it was excellent timing to have a couple of strikers available.

"Hopefully Martin will have the chance to get himself right now."



Justin dreams of Wembley



PROLIFIC marksman Justin Bennett knows he must keep cutting the mustard with Poole Town if he is to stand any chance of realising his Wembley dream.

The Gosport Borough striker made a stunning start to his loan spell with the Dolphins by plundering a hat-trick in their 5-1 win over Southern Premier League rivals Bedford on Tuesday.

Bennett, whose goals fired Alex Pike's Borough to successive promotions to the Skryll Conference South, has joined Poole, initially for a month, in a bid to regain his form following an indifferent start to the season.

And, after helping Poole sink Bedford, he had a keen eye on the outcome of Havant & Waterlooville's FA Trophy quarter-final against Aldershot – with victory for the Hawks setting up a last-four clash with Gosport.

Although Bennett is ineligible for the first leg of the semi-final under the terms of his loan, he would be available for the second at Privett Park on February 22 – and a possible final at Wembley in March.

Bennett, a paraplanner for a financial adviser in Salisbury, said: "I was buzzing for the lads at Gosport when they got through.

"I can't say I am not thinking about it but, as much as it is on my mind, I am just trying to concentrate on doing as well as I can for Poole.

"I would love to be part of it.

It is not every day a player at this level gets a chance of a day out at Wembley and I would be gutted if I were to miss out.

"But there is still a semi-final to be won and, until anything is decided, I will be trying to do my best for Poole."

Bennett netted twice inside the opening 19 minutes at Bedford before his third goal was sandwiched between second-half strikes by Marvin Brooks and Jordan Chiedozie.

Discussing his loan move, the former Salisbury, Andover and Eastleigh sharpshooter added:

"Goals have been hard to come by for all the strikers at Gosport this season and a few of us have been dropped here and there.

"It has been a case of fits and starts for me.

"I felt I needed to be playing games to get my confidence back so expressed an interest in going out on loan.

"Alex had a conversation with Tom (Killick, Poole manager) and it was left in my hands.

"As soon as I heard Poole wanted me, I jumped at the chance because I knew what a good club they were.

"If Alex gets a striker who scores a few goals, he might look at extending the loan.

"Equally, if I am banging in the goals for Poole, he might want to take me back."

DREAM: Justin Bennett hopes a good run of form in his loan spell at Poole could see him make Gosport's Wembley squad.

GOT A NON-LEAGUE STORY: CALL 023 8042 4515

Saints Spotlight

POMPEY FIXTURES

AUGUST

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------|
| Sat 3 | Oxford (H) |L 1-4 |
| Agyemang | | |
| Tues 6 | B'mouth LC1 (A) |L 0-1 |
| Sat 10 | Accrington (A) |D 2-2 |
| Connolly 2 | | |
| Sat 17 | Morecambe (H) | ...W 3-0 |
| Wallace, Connolly, Agyemang | | |
| Sat 24 | Mansfield (A) |D 2-2 |
| Barcham, Connolly | | |
| Sat 31 | Chesterfield (H) |L 0-2 |

SEPTEMBER

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Tues 3 | Torquay FLT1 (a) | ...D 0-0 |
| Won on penalties | | |
| Sat 7 | Cheltenham (A) |D 2-2 |
| Agyemang, Ertl | | |
| Sat 14 | Burton (A) |W 2-1 |
| Holmes, Ferry | | |
| Sat 21 | Fleetwood (H) |L 0-1 |
| Sat 28 | York (A) |L 2-4 |
| Wallace, Marquis | | |

OCTOBER

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Sat 5 | Rochdale (H) |W 3-0 |
| Ngala 2, Wallace | | |
| 9 Oxford (A) JPT |W 2-1 | |
| Marquis, Agyemang | | |
| Sat 12 | Plymouth (A) |D 1-1 |
| Wallace | | |
| Sat 19 | Bury (H) |W 1-0 |
| N'Gala | | |
| Sat 26 | Torquay (A) |D 1-1 |
| Bird | | |

NOVEMBER

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Sat 2 | Exeter (H) |W 3-2 |
| Holmes, Bird 2 | | |
| Sat 9 | Stevenage (A, FAC) | ...L 1-2 |
| Connolly | | |
| Tue 12 | Newport (A, JPT) |L 0-3 |
| Sat 16 | Wimbledon (A) |L 0-4 |
| Sat 23 | Scunthorpe (H) |L 1-2 |
| Craddock | | |
| Tues 26 | Southend (H) |L 1-2 |
| Barcham | | |
| Sat 30 | Hartlepool (A) |D 0-0 |

DECEMBER

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Tues 4 | Wycombe (H) |D 2-2 |
| Barcham, Agyemang | | |
| Sat 14 | Newport (H) |L 0-2 |
| Sat 21 | Bristol Rovers (A) |L 0-2 |
| Thur 26 | Dag & Red (H) | ...W 1-0 |
| Padovani | | |
| Sun 29 | Northampton (H) | ...D 0-0 |

JANUARY

| | | |
|------------|----------------|-----------|
| Wed 1 | Southend (A) |L 1-2 |
| Bradley | | |
| Sat 4 | Accrington (H) |pp |
| Sat 11 | Oxford Utd (A) |D 0-0 |
| Sat 18 | Mansfield (H) |D 1-1 |
| Taylor | | |
| Sat 25 | Morecambe (A) |D 2-2 |
| Jervis (2) | | |
| Tues 28 | Wycombe (A) |W 1-0 |
| Taylor | | |

FEBRUARY

| | | |
|--------|-------------|-----------|
| Sat 1 | Torquay (H) |L 1-0 |
| Sat 8 | Exeter |(A) |
| Sat 15 | Wimbledon |(H) |
| Sat 22 | Scunthorpe |(A) |

MARCH

| | | |
|---------|--------------|---------|
| Sat 1 | Chesterfield |(A) |
| Sat 8 | Cheltenham |(H) |
| Tues 11 | Burton |(H) |
| Sat 15 | Fleetwood |(A) |
| Sat 22 | York |(H) |
| Tues 25 | Rochdale |(A) |
| Sat 29 | Newport |(A) |

APRIL

| | | |
|--------|----------------|---------|
| Sat 5 | Hartlepool |(H) |
| Sat 12 | Dag & Red |(A) |
| Sat 19 | Bristol Rovers |(H) |
| Mon 21 | Northampton |(A) |
| Sat 26 | Bury |(A) |

MAY

| | | |
|-------|----------|---------|
| Sat 3 | Plymouth |(H) |
|-------|----------|---------|

HOW THE SOUTH COAST

POMPEY: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



DAVID JAMES: Player-coach at Icelandic outfit ÍBV Vestmannaeyjar, under former Pompey team-mate Hermann Hreidarsson, and a pundit on BT Sport. Like most of this Pompey team, the former England goalkeeper left Fratton Park in the summer of 2010, when Bristol City splashed out £1.2m for him. After two seasons at Ashton Gate his career in England ended at AFC Bournemouth last summer.



MARC WILSON: Now in his fourth season at Stoke City, the Irish defender is the only member of this Pompey team still playing in the Premier League.

NADIR BELHADJ: The Algerian defender, a £4.4m signing from Lens, signed for Qatar outfit Al Sadd the following summer and has been there ever since.

JAMIE O'HARA: The midfielder was at the beginning of a five-month loan from Spurs on the day he completed the scoring at St Mary's. He signed for Wolves for £5m in June 2011 and is still at Molineux. But he has been plagued by injury and is out of favour with his career at a standstill.



HERMANN HREIDARSSON: The Icelandic defender was appointed player-manager of ÍBV Vestmannaeyjar 18 months ago.

HAYDEN MULLINS: After staying at Pompey another 18 months, he moved to Birmingham City but the 34-year-old midfielder has just started a loan spell at League One Notts County.

PAPE DIOP: The midfielder has had a season with AEK Athens, West Ham and Birmingham since leaving Fratton Park in the summer of 2010. Now 36, the Senegalese's career looks to be over as he has been a free agent since leaving St Andrews a year ago.

JOHN UTAKA: The 32-year-old Nigerian left Pompey for Montpellier three years ago, but has been playing for Turkish outfit Sivasspor this season.



HASSAN YEBDA: The Algerian midfielder, on loan at Pompey in 2009/10, was loaned to Napoli for the following season. Still only 29, he has been at La Liga outfit Granada for the last two-and-a-half years but is currently on loan at Serie A Udinese.

ANGELOS BASINAS: The Greek midfielder left for France the following August to play for Ligue 2 Arles Avignon, where he played a handful of games before retiring.

ARUNA DINDANE: The Ivory Coast forward spent the last two months of last season at Crystal Palace. But the 33-year-old is now without a club.



RICHARD HUGHES (used sub): The former Scotland international midfielder spent another full season at Pompey. Now 34, he is midway through the second season of his second spell at AFC Bournemouth, where he began his career, after being persuaded to come out of retirement 18 months ago.

FREDERIC PIQUIONNE (used sub): The 35-year-old French forward is playing in Major League Soccer for Portland Timbers, having joined West Ham for £1m in the summer of 2010.

QUINCY OWUSU-ABEYIE (used sub): Still only 27, the Ghanaian winger is a free agent after spells with Al Sadd, Malaga and Panathinaikos following his equaliser at St Mary's – the only goal of his two-month loan at Fratton Park from Spartak Moscow.

Saints and Pompey switch roles in just FOUR years

NEVER before have Saints and Pompey been further apart in the football pyramid than the 77 places that currently separate them.

Which is why it is so hard to believe only four years have passed since Saints were the underdogs against Pompey on FA Cup fourth-round weekend.

Handicapped by a ten-point deduction in the bottom half of League One following the double whammy of administration and relegation the previous summer, Saints were 38 places below a Pompey side still clinging on to Premier League status.

They drew on the two occasions they crossed paths in the Championship in 2011/12, the season Saints fans celebrated back-to-back promotions – and the second of Pompey's three relega-

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tions in four years.

But it is likely to be a long time before Saints get another chance to avenge the 4-1 defeat they suffered at home to their great rivals on February 13, 2010.

Pompey sub Quincy Owusu-Abeyie opened the scoring for Avram Grant's side midway through the second half.

And after Rickie Lambert responded by heading the equaliser four minutes later, Pompey ran riot with goals from Aruna Dindane, Nadir Belhadj and Jamie O'Hara.

Four of that Saints team – Kelvin Davis, Adam Lallana, Morgan Schneiderlin and Lambert – remain with the club.

This is what has become of the rest of the players involved that day.

CONSOLATION: Rickie Lambert celebrates his goal against Pompey in the fifth round of the FA Cup at St Mary's in 2010.

JOIN IN THE SAINTS DEBATES

Saints Spotlight

TIMES HAVE CHANGED!



TACKLED: Saints' Michail Antonio is beaten to the ball by Pompey's Hasan Yebda during the FA Cup fifth round match at St Mary's in 2010.

SAINTS: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

KELVIN DAVIS: Played a huge role in the promotion-winning seasons under Nigel Adkins. Has now made 292 appearances for Saints but has been restricted to 12 in the Premier League.

DAN HARDING: Midway through his second season with Nottingham Forest after leaving Saints following promotion to the Premier League.

WAYNE THOMAS: A £1m signing from Burnley, he left Saints after three seasons the following summer, and is currently midway through his second season with Conference outfit Tamworth, his longest spell with any club since leaving St Mary's for Doncaster. The defender had brief spells with Greek outfits Atromitos and Verolia before dropping into the Conference, firstly with Luton.

CHRIS PERRY: Now 40, he is the youth team coach at Dagenham & Redbridge after hanging up his boots when he was released by Saints the following summer.

RADHI JAIDI: The Tunisian defender played for another two seasons but is still working for the club in international development.

DEAN HAMMOND: After being loaned back to Brighton for last season, the midfielder signed for Championship leaders Leicester in September, making most of his appearances for Nigel Pearson's side as a substitute.

MORGAN SCHNEIDERLIN: Still only 24, the Frenchman is now a midfielder of proven Premier League quality.

ADAM LALLANA: Has gone from strength to strength and keeps getting better. It will be a surprise if his star does not continue to rise with a place in England's World Cup squad this summer.

MICHAIL ANTONIO: The winger's loan spell also included a goal in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final. Reading then loaned him to Colchester and Sheffield Wednesday, where his move has since been made permanent. Expected to come back from injury to play his first game back at Reading this weekend, which is also his first game since Stuart Gray was given the manager's job on a permanent basis.

RICKIE LAMBERT: Will be 32 next week, making it even harder to believe he had never played higher than League One when he played in his first Hampshire derby. Has since graduated to the Championship and the Premier League with distinction – and scored on his England debut. Could yet make the World Cup squad.

PAPA WAIKO N'DIAYE: The Senegalese returned to Fiorentina following his season-long Saints loan but dropped into Serie B with Ascoli in 2011/12. Spent last season playing for Al-Whada in the UAE Pro-League and is currently with Saudi Arabian outfit Ettifaq FC.

LEE HOLMES (used sub): After loan spells with Swindon and Oxford, the luckless winger, who is still only 26, is enjoying a rare injury-free run in his second season with League One Preston NE.

LEE BARNARD (used sub): Returned to League Two Southend on loan from Saints last month, with a view to a permanent move after loan spells with Bournemouth and Oldham.

Flintoff: KP has become scapegoat

ANDREW Flintoff believes Kevin Pietersen has been made a scapegoat for England's Ashes failure and questioned the team spirit in the camp after watching the treatment of his former colleague.

The England & Wales Cricket Board have effectively ended Pietersen's international career this week, with the oft-controversial but undeniably gifted former Hampshire batsman joining team director Andy Flower as a casualty of a miserable winter Down Under.

But ex-England captain Flintoff believes it is wrong to single out individuals, and claims it would not have happened in his day.

"The England teams I played in, the buzzword was always the 'group'," Flintoff told the *Daily Mail*. "That was the mantra, 'The group is close, the group is tight' - and when we were all doing well, that was true. The group stuck together because the group all wanted to take credit for victory and get their column inches in the newspaper."

"But it's when you're not doing well that you need team spirit, and I haven't seen too many people coming out and accepting responsibility for this one."

"The group doesn't seem to be a group any more. They've got one player who can take the blame and the rest of them want to go about their business and let him take the fall."

"It's not that we couldn't bowl them out, not that we couldn't score runs, not that we got outplayed - it's Kevin Pietersen's fault. I'd have more respect for some of the senior players if they held their hands up, rather than letting it all get heaped on one bloke."

Flintoff claimed players and officials were seeking to defend their own positions by putting the focus on others. "If his attitude was that bad, why did he play five Tests?" he said and added: "I can't imagine what Kevin could have done, or what the ECB could announce, that would allow this to make sense."

Pietersen - hero or villain - see pages 36/37

Who are Ya?

Braishfield Reserves

Nickname: Braish

Local pub: Pokers Bar at our Clubhouse

The skipper: Ben Musslewhite

The moaner: This year everyone is pretty good, Ben Musslewhite has a good sulk if he is sub or subbed.

Mr Motivator: Being the manager and having a big mouth I guess that would be me, though after some of our results this year it obviously doesn't work!

Worst haircut: Reece can have this one for his half shaved half curly top sort of thing

Club joker: Lee Whitelock has come out with a few "jokes" this year.

The professional: Piler, his boot bag is bigger than most peoples kit bag!

Who owns the worst car and what is it? To be fair none are that bad, half the team aren't old enough to drive though!

Team Ratings

DAN THERE: Experienced goalkeeper who seems to have been around forever. Probably because he made his debut in adult's football for Awbridge way back in 2000, aged just 15!

DAVE MASON: An experienced no-nonsense defender who loves to get forward and create openings. 'Cecil' is well known in Romsey football circles having played most of the areas clubs.

JAKE HITCHCOCK: A graduate from our flourishing youth academy and son of club legend Kevin.

MATT PILE: 'Piler' joined us in 2012, a good strong centre half who also claims to be a prolific striker for his Sunday side Old House at Home, but the jury is still out on that one!

LEE BOYLE: Known as the 'Ice-Man' – a quietly spoken but alert centre half who has given good service to our club over the years.

BEN CRAGGS: Another long serving player – a tenacious midfielder who loves to get stuck in.

ANDY NUTMAN: 'Nuts' joined the club in 2000 and has remained loyal during thick and (mainly!) thin. Player manager Andy is a versatile player who can operate in a variety of positions.

PAUL TANNER: Hard tackling no-nonsense player who has his own personal account with the Hampshire FA, but to be fair was well behaved today. Son of club legend Mickey.

BEN JACOBS: Experienced striker who holds the ball up well and creates plenty of openings, well known for his colourful language! Previously with Romsey Town – where he sold programmes!

KARL HOPKINS: A new signing for this season, Karl has fitted in well at the club and has scored some good goals this season including several impressive long range efforts.

TREBOR EVANS: Scouser Treb joined us in 2012 after moving to the area and has become a vital cog in our midfield engine. Is easily spotted as the bloke wearing a well-worn 1990's Liverpool shirt!

DAN LEWIS: A promising midfielder/striker who recently graduated from our youth set-up.

REECE FELLINGHAM: Another youth team graduate who is usually found in a midfield role.

LEE WHITELOCK: Son of club legend Terry, is our secretary and now our oldest player. 'Leroy' helps run the reserves and is also stalwart of long running Sunday side Whitenap.

BEN MUSSELWHITE: Long serving striker who graduated from our original youth side. Ever present but sadly missing today as away celebrating his birthday. Disciplinary action is expected!

DANNY HEWITT: An experienced midfielder who joined the ranks in 2012, scored some cracking goals this season. Has been ever-present this season – apart from today.

OLLIE STONE: A hardworking midfielder who joined us in 2012 from local Sunday side Bedes Lea.

JAKE BATCHELOR: 'JB' is a central defender, another prospering youth team graduate.

BEN BOULTON: A promising young defender who joined this season.

Meet the Manager

Manager: Andy Nutman

Age: 37

Where are you from: Bitterne

Occupation: Delivery Driver

Position in the club: Reserve team Player/Manager

Who do you support:

West Ham United

Favourite player: Billy Bonds and Julian Dicks

Your best footballing moment: For this season I'll say Matt Piles goal against M&T where he ran the length of the pitch beating a few players on the way

Ambitions for the club:

Challenge for a cup and climb the league whilst supporting the first team.



PARK SCRATCHINGS ... PARK SCRATCHINGS

SHIELD



GOAL: Ben Craggs scores for Braishfield.

Order no: 17907889



ON THE BALL: Action from Shield's clash with Braishfield Reserves. Order: 17907886

SHIELD 5

(Andrew Wagstaff 2, Dean Broderick 2, Adam O'Neill)

BRAISHFIELD RES 7

(Ben Jacobs 2, Ben Craggs, Dave Mason, Andy Nutman, 2 x o.g.s.)

SAME players, same manager, same league but not the same club – Shield FC went into their 7-5 defeat in Drew Smith Junior 5 to Braishfield Reserves with a complete change of identity.

At the start of the campaign they were known as South Coast Sports. After four games, one win along with the beginnings of a cup run, the club were suddenly stripped of their name because the former owner of the club wanted it back.

Once that had happened the manager, Tony Roles, had no choice but to restart. He set up Shield FC. With the same bunch of players that had started the season so brightly, his newly named side have yet to tally a point on the board, although they've only played four games.

And after scoring five goals in one game, no mean feat in itself, Shield would have felt hard done by not to notch their first win under their new moniker.

Braishfield, who were in emphatic form in this match, were 5-0 up at one point as Ben Craggs, Ben Jacobs, Dave Mason, and two own goals had set them up for



ON THE BALL: Matt Pile's effort is charged down.

Order: 17907883

almost certain victory.

But two goals from Andrew Wagstaff and Dean Broderick along with an Adam O'Neil effort spear headed Shield's hopes of a comeback.

Despite their brave attempts Braish found a chink in their opponents armour as Jacobs and Andy Nutman scored the two goals that separated the two sides.

After the incessant deluge that has caused havoc to the fixtures in the Drew Smith,

these two sides played just their second game of 2014 on the synthetic surface at Wide Lane.

The 12-goal thriller was exciting from start to finish. As most fixtures were postponed, this one survived thanks to the hosts' initiative – moving the game from a sodden Millbrook Rec to Wide Lane at the last minute.

In swirling winds, Braishfield started strongly and soon took control of proceedings.



BRAISHFIELD RESERVES:

Back row, left to right: Andy Nutman, Lee Boyle, Ben Jacobs, Dan Thebe, Matt Pile, Reece Fellingham, Jake Hitchcock and Kevin Hitchcock. Front: Carl Hopkins, Dave Mason, Treb Evans, Paul Tanner, Ben Craggs, Dan Lewis and Leigh Whitelock.

Order: 17907880

Want to be featured? Contact Pete Howard on 02380 424513

PARK SCRATCHINGS ... PARK SCRATCHINGS

SHIP SEVEN



Policy of all out attack backfires as Shield fall to a 7-5 defeat at the hands of Braishfield



ACTION: Shield go on the attack. Order: 17907882

Early pressure was soon rewarded when Craggs lashed home from close range on eight minutes.

Shortly after Jacobs slotted home a second.

It was not all one-way traffic, however, as with some quick counter-attacking the hosts were a threat on the break. Braish had goalkeeper Dan Thebe to thank for a marvellous reaction save to deny Shield a foothold in the match.

After this let-off, the away side regained authority and added a third goal on 20 minutes when Mason's low drive gave the home keeper no chance.

Roles, the manager and goalkeeper of Shield, then had a forgettable moment as a Jordan Christians' back pass came at an awkward height and ended up in the back of the net, much to the embarrassment of both players.

At 4-0 the game looked well beyond Shield. The fifth looked to have buried them completely as Kieran Scott planted an errant header into his own net.

As half-time approached, Shield got their first goal through Broderick, with a crisp volley.

Now aided by the strong wind, the hosts started the second-half strongly and a low strike by Wagstaff soon saw them reduce the deficit

further. Despite Shield's new found potency, Braish added another through Nutman.

Broderick then finished off a glorious team goal by slotting home from just inside the box, 6-3.

The game continued to flow from end to end as both Karl Hopkins and Trebor Evans went close before Jacobs fired home his second of the day 7-3.

But once more,

Shield responded strongly and, inspired by veteran Darren Strange, they pulled another goal back through O'Neil.

The pulsating tie was then further ignited as Wagstaff added the fifth and set up an exciting finale.

And if it wasn't for some stubborn defending by Braishfield's Paul Tanner, Lee Boyle and Matt Pile there might have been more.

Who are Ya?

Shield & Dagger

TONY ROLES: Manager/goalkeeper, pictured below. Great keeper when not scoring an own goal but redeemed himself well with some great saves. Likes to run a tight ship. Great manager for an Aston Villa fan.

SHAUN NEWTON: Captain/centre back. Very head strong player, loves to push up the field but always knows when to drop back. Great player for a northerner.

ADAM O'NEILL: Centre mid. The shyest man off the pitch but a monster on the pitch. Loves to get stuck in and is a great goal scorer.

SIMON KEW: AKA The Trickster - left mid. Loves his little flicks and tricks although they don't always pay off, strong headed and very vocal.

DEAN BRODERICK: AKA Deano - striker. Scored two goals in his debut game with us. Very pacy player. Will always track back to help defend.



DARREN STRANGE: AKA Strangy - left back. Great at throw in's, not the paciest on the pitch but always gets stuck in and not scared to make a tackle.

TOM MAKEPEACE: Right back. Great team player, nifty on his feet when needed and always keeps going until the final whistle.

KIERAN SCOTT: AKA Hairbear - centre back. Loves to win the ball in the air, a very strong player but could do with a haircut.

ANDREW WAGSTAFF: AKA Waggy - striker. One of the fastest players, can play anywhere on the pitch. Great for goals when not using his hands.

JOSH FERGUSON: AKA Tashman - right mid. Has a great tash going on, usually played out of position but always does a great job. Strong player on the ball.

JORDAN CHRISTIANS: AKA JJ - centre mid. Great player when on his game, a player that can play anywhere and very light on his feet.

JAMES FLOOD: AKA The Spaceman - sub. Came on as left mid, not sure where he is most of the time but when he gets ball to feet he does the job he's meant to. Great player when motivated.

JO ROLES: Manager's son, ball boy and number one fan. A great little player himself.



TACKLE: Shield take on Braishfield. Order:



SHIELD AND DAGGER: Back row, left to right: Kieran Scott, Shaun Newton, Tony Roles(manager), Mike Roles, Adam O'Neil, Joshua Ferguson and Jordan Christians. Front: James Flood, Dean Brodrick, Darren Strange, Simon Kew, Tom Makepeace and Andrew Wagstaff. Order: 17907879

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Drew Smith results in Monday's Echo

-- Eastleigh Sports Awards special --



PARTICIPATION COACH OF THE YEAR: Adam Pullinger.



PERFORMANCE COACH OF THE YEAR: Noel O'Dowd.



SENIOR SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR: Samantha Aplin.

IT is the event that marks some of the finest achievements in sport in the local area and once again it didn't disappoint as sportspeople gathered for the Eastleigh Sports Awards at the Ageas Bowl.

BBC Radio Solent presenter and former Hampshire Cricketer Kevan James was on hand to announce the ceremony as well as grilling winners on their achievements.

Sports Pink reporter **PETER HOWARD** attended the event and mingled with the winners and the stars, including Saints legend Fran Benali and Paralympian star Aaron Phipps.

Here, he provides a profile of the award winners:

PERFORMANCE COACH OF THE YEAR – NOEL O'DOWD

Noel picked up the award after his exceptional contribution to athletics. The running coach has worked with many individuals at Eastleigh Running Club to help them achieve titles they never even thought possible, including debut international medals in 2013.

PARTICIPATION COACH OF THE YEAR – ADAM PULLINGER

Adam (AFC Stoneham) is a dedicated and professional football coach who thrives under the pressure of expecting personal excellence, his positivity is infectious. Adam has coaching and communication skills well above his age of 22 and he is welcoming and makes every player, coach and parent feel at home within the club.

SENIOR SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR – SAMANTHA APLIN

Samantha represented Team GB at the World Duathlon Championships in Canada. There she won the silver medal just two years after taking up the sport. She also won the English Cross Duathlon Championships, the Clarendon half marathon and her first Olympic distance triathlon all in 2013.

SENIOR DISABILITY SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR – MELANIE JEWETT

Melanie has had an exceptional year in marathon running, breaking her personal best on three occasions. The pinnacle of her achievements came when she won Team GB's first medal at the Deaflympics, winning bronze in the ladies marathon and breaking the British record by ten minutes in the process.

JUNIOR DISABILITY SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR – KATY KEMISH

Katy is a driven, enthusiastic, and sociable young woman who excels in everything she does. In 2013 Katy won the Under-19s Visually Impaired Boccia National Championships at only 15-



WINNERS: The Eastleigh Sports Award winners show off their trophies. All pics by Dan Wilson.

years-old. She optimises the word role model.

JUNIOR TEAM OF THE YEAR – TOYNBEE GIRLS RUGBY TEAM

Toynbee Girls Rugby Team didn't even play the sport last year. But during an incredible 2013 they became Hampshire Champions and finished fifth in the South of England.

SENIOR TEAM OF THE YEAR – SOUTHAMPTON MUSTANGS BASEBALL CLUB

The Southampton Mustangs Baseball team enjoyed their best ever season in 2013. After a winning rate of 82 per cent in the top tier of British baseball, they narrowly lost in the National Final. In addition to this they represented England baseball internationally at the Alpine Cup in Switzerland where they finished second.



SERVICE TO SPORT: Sue Boote with Mayor of Eastleigh Cllr Malcolm Cross.



SERVICE TO SPORT: Tim Nash with Mayor of Eastleigh Cllr Malcolm Cross.

-- Eastleigh Sports Awards special --

SUPERSTARS



CELEBRATION



SERVICE TO SPORT: Geoff Smith with Mayor of Eastleigh Cllr Malcolm Cross.



SERVICE TO SPORT: Joan Veal with Mayor of Eastleigh Cllr Malcolm Cross.

JUNIOR SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR – KYLE FINCH

Kyle played number one for England Under-15s squash team, who won the European Championships. He is now ranked number one in Europe and won the Under-15 British Closed Tournament at the start of November. He acts as a role model to others and is a great ambassador for his sport to others.

JUNIOR SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR – IRA BANERJEE

Ira played badminton for England in the Six Nations and won the girls doubles at two internationals and the Under-17 National Championships during 2013. Ira also was the runner up in the Girls Singles Under-17 Nationals and reached the semi finals in the Under-19 Nationals.

JUNIOR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR – FFION EADE

Ffion has created netball opportunities where there were not any, and has made a massive impact in the Chandler's Ford community through her volunteering. She worked with local primary schools to create as much netball competition and coaching as possible.

SENIOR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR – LOUISE DRAYTON AND DEBBIE BARTLETT

Louise Drayton volunteers as Event Director for Eastleigh Park Run, she spends hours and hours each week organising the event. She makes the teas and also finds volunteers to help run the event that sees 400 competitors turn up and take part every Saturday.

After the London 2012 Debbie Bartlett refused to hang up her 'Games Maker' hat. Her enthusiasm and efficiency has been significant in leading the Eastleigh 2012 Legacy Group developing free sports opportunities for families.

CLUB OF THE YEAR – POSEIDON AMATEUR BOXING CLUB

Poseidon Amateur Boxing Club set up in the Borough of Eastleigh a year ago and now has a membership base of over 350 – an astonishing growth. They are passionate to supporting all members of all abilities, welcoming people young and old to create a real club feel.

SERVICE TO SPORT AWARD – TIM NASH

Tim was handed his award after work in volleyball. His team base in Southampton at Crestwood School has benefited from hours of his hard work.

SERVICE TO SPORT AWARD – CHRIS FEATHERSTONE

Chris set up Fair Oak Cricket Club and they went from two teams in 1993 to 16 teams now.

SERVICE TO SPORT AWARD – SUE BOOTE

Sue set up beginners running clubs across Eastleigh and endeavours to continue her hard work within the community.

SERVICE TO SPORT AWARD – JOAN VEAL

Has been involved in canoeing at Itchen South District Scouts since the early 1970s, whether it's running finances, organising trips or first aid, Joan does it all.

SERVICE TO SPORT AWARD – GEOFF SMITH

First played for AFC Stoneham (then known as Ordinance Survey) in 1966 and has since fulfilled every position in the club, his services in football have stretched for decades and is still going strong.

● MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 34



SENIOR DISABILITY SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR: Melanie Jewett.



JUNIOR SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR: Kyle Finch.



JUNIOR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: Ffion Eade.

GOT A SPORT STORY? EMAIL: ECHOSPORT@DAILYECHO.CO.UK

-- Eastleigh Sports Awards special -- Eastleigh Sports Awards special --



SENIOR TEAM AWARD: Southampton Mustangs Baseball Club.



SENIOR VOLUNTEER AWARD: Louise Drayton and Debby Bartlett.

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JUNIOR TEAM AWARD: Toynbee School girls rugby team.



SERVICES TO SPORT AWARD: Chris Featherstone receives his award from Mayor of Eastleigh Malcolm Cross.

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Daily Echo
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Views on KP from home and abroad

ENGLAND delivered a bombshell when they announced Kevin Pietersen's enforced international retirement. Here, The Pink gauges the press reaction at home and abroad.

"The ECB did all it could to bring him back on board, but when you have been so completely and utterly dismantled, as England have been this winter, you have to draw a line ... It is a shame we will never see Pietersen in England colours again."

BBC cricket correspondent Jonathan Agnew



"There is something terribly wrong with the team and coach if they cannot cope with a great player's quirks."

Former England captain Michael Vaughan

"Pathetic England have sacked Kevin Pietersen – and did not even explain why they were finishing his international career."

"Clowns in blazers at Lord's face a huge public backlash after revealing Pietersen will not be included in the one-day squad to tour the West Indies later this month, nor the Twenty20 world cup in Bangladesh which follows."

"After calling time on KP's England career, the England and Wales Cricket Board – who face a £500,000 bill to pay up the remaining eight months of his central contract – issued a dismally corporate statement to justify their choice of scapegoat for the 5-0 Ashes wipe-out in Australia."

Daily Mirror columnist Mike Walters

"...once Pietersen failed to convince his team-mates, not just on the field but in the many small things that make up a long cricket tour, that he really did care about them and their success, once they ceased to believe he was with them, then he had to go."

Malcolm Knox, Sydney Morning Herald

"Kevin Pietersen's England career fizzles out ... Most talented England batsman of his generation ditched in a typically quiet fashion."

South China Morning Post

"Boycott's mournful comment that 'they don't want me, but they want my runs,' will serve equally well as an epitaph for the England career of Pietersen."

The Times of India

"I can confirm Kevin Pietersen has been SACKED by the pathetic, spineless losers at the @ECB. Unbelievable."

Pietersen's celebrity confidant Piers Morgan

"It was coming I think. Kevin Pietersen found himself friendless and with no allies."

Former England captain Mike Atherton.

Continued on opposite page

Love him or hate him, you can't keep Kevin Pietersen out

ENGLAND batsman Kevin Pietersen will no longer play international cricket after it was announced he will not be in the squad for the upcoming tour of the Caribbean and ICC World Twenty20.

The announcement brings an end to a controversial international career of the former Hampshire batsman, featuring plenty of bumps in the road. Here **RORY DOLLARD** assesses them.

January 2005 – Return to South Africa

BORN and raised in Natal, Pietersen initially played for his home province before heading to England pursue his career – in frustration with the Proteas' quota sys-

tem. When he returned to his homeland wearing the Three Lions, fans made their feelings known by turning their backs when he came to the crease.

Three stunning hundreds later and they could not help but watch.

HITTING OUT:

Pietersen hits four off Australia's Ryan Harris during the Natwest One Day International at the Rose Bowl in June, 2010.



June 2008 – The switch hit

FOUND himself at the centre of a media storm over the laws of the game when he unveiled his innovative 'switch hit'.

An extension of the reverse sweep, it involved flipping the entire stance from right-hand to left-hand to take advantage of gaps in the field.

A number of former professionals

called for it to be banned and it briefly became a genuinely divisive issue until the ICC ratified it as a legitimate stroke. Much copied, it is now here to stay.

January 2009 – End of an error IF Pietersen's New Year's resolution was to relieve himself of the England captaincy, an honour surprisingly handed to him ahead of the staterel Andrew Strauss, then it took him only hours to deliver.

Pietersen told the England and Wales Cricket Board that the team would not progress under coach

Peter Moores and called for

KP: HERO

ENGLAND batsman Kevin Pietersen's international career has come to an end after nine years and 104 Test matches. It was a career that contained plenty of highs – and lows.

HIGHS

DECEMBER 1999: Pietersen comes to England's attention for the first time, playing against them for KwaZulu Natal. Facing future international team-mates – and Ashes-winners Michael Vaughan and Andrew Flintoff – a 19-year-old Pietersen bowls 55.5 overs of his then frontline off-spin. Among his four victims are England captains past, present and future Michael Atherton, Nasser Hussain and Vaughan. Pietersen also makes an unbeaten 61 from number nine in the drawn four-day fixture in Durban.

2004/05: After making his England one-day international debut in Zimbabwe, on the back of prolific form for Nottinghamshire, he announces himself with three centuries in a 4-1 defeat in his native country.

SUMMER 2005: Pietersen is preferred to veteran Graham Thorpe in England's squad for the first Test against Australia. He ends the season by making an Ashes-clinching maiden Test century at The Oval, sparking famous celebrations – including an open-top bus tour of

Pietersen celebrates defeating Australia in the NatWest Series at Bristol in 2005.



London the next day.

AUGUST 2008: Takes over the captaincy of both Test and one-day international teams, after Vaughan's resignation in the longer format during a home series defeat against South Africa. Marks first match as captain, against his native country, with a century at The Oval.

MAY 2010: Player of the tournament as England win their first ever International Cricket Council silverware, under Paul Collingwood's captaincy, in the World Twenty20 in the Caribbean.

AUGUST 2013: Scores a century in the third Ashes Test match against Australia to become the

highest run scorer for England across all forms of cricket combined.

JANUARY 2014:

Pietersen is top England run-scorer in the 5-0 Ashes whitewash defeat to Australia, scoring 294 runs at an average of 29, and on the Test series' conclusion he expresses his desire to continue playing and help regain the urn in 2015.



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of the headlines – but has he hit them for the final time?

his removal.

The bold gambit did end Moores' tenure but also made Pietersen's position untenable and he reluctantly stood down too.

March 2011 – Only the brave...

WHEN his star batsman took the unilateral decision to leave the World Cup due to a hernia injury, team director Andy Flower left little doubt over his views.

He cited medical advice that Pietersen could have taken painkillers and completed the tournament and added that he might have been "a bit braver".

For his part, the player declared himself "devastated" and the physical toll of international cricket on his body has become a

favourite topic.

July 2012 – Not shy but retiring

SHOCKED fans and pundits alike by announcing his retirement



SWEET SUCCESS: Pietersen hugs Eoin Morgan after hitting the winning runs during the ICC World Twenty20 semi-final in St Lucia in 2010.

from one-day and Twenty20 cricket.

Behind-the-scenes talks surrounding his desire to end his 50-over career but carry on playing Test and T20 cricket were unsuccessful after the ECB stood firm over the terms of their central contracts.

Pietersen had hopes of helping England defend their World T20 title later that year despite his exit, but the impasse lingered.

August 2012 – Heated at Headingley

GAVE a staggering post-match press conference after a wonderful Test century against South Africa – treating Strauss dismissively, hinting he could retire from Tests at the end of the summer and, most famously, declaring "it's hard being me in this dressing room".

Subsequently dropped and declined a central contract as the ECB investigated reports he had sent messages to members of the away team that concerned his own team-mates.

He was later "reintegrated" to the side following an awkward and apologetic press conference alongside ECB chairman Giles Clarke.

OR VILLAIN?

LOWS

2006/07: Pietersen averages more than 50 as England bid to retain the Ashes – but is part of a winter of failure for the team, including a 5-0 trouncing in Australia under Flintoff and then a controversial early exit from the World Cup in the Caribbean – which results, despite two centuries from him, in the end of Duncan Fletcher's tenure as coach.

JANUARY 2009: After a fraught tour of India, interrupted by terrorist attacks on Mumbai, reports emerge of a rift between Pietersen and coach Peter Moores. Both lose their jobs, Pietersen returning to the ranks for the tour of the West Indies as the Andrew Strauss-Andy Flower captain-coach axis takes hold.

MAY 2012: Pietersen is again fined by ECB for a Twitter faux pas, this time his criticism of Sky commentator Nick Knight. Barely a week later comes the shock announcement that he is to retire, at the age of 31, from all limited-overs international cricket.

AUGUST 2012: Pietersen refuses to give assurances that the final



Pietersen walks away after being out for 45 during the fourth power Test match at Trent Bridge, Nottingham in 2005

Test against South Africa at Lord's will not be his last for England, but is then left out amid allegations he sent derogatory text messages about his international team-mates to members of the tourists' squad.

Despite apologising, Pietersen is omitted from both the World Twenty20 and the NatWest International T20 Series against South Africa.

MARCH 2013: Forced to leave the tour of New Zealand before the final Test with a knee injury, which rules him out for three months.

2013/14: For a second time, Pietersen is part of an England side beaten 5-0 in the Ashes in

Australia. He averages 29.40 in the five Tests, with just two half-centuries including a top score of 71.

FEBRUARY 2014: England career appears over after he was left out of the squads for the tour of the Caribbean and ICC World Twenty20.

Pietersen also indicates it is the end of the line for him at international level, saying: "Although I am obviously very sad the incredible journey has come to an end, I'm also hugely proud of what we, as a team, have achieved over the past nine years. I believe I have a great deal still to give as a cricketer. I will continue to play but deeply regret that it won't be for England."

Views on KP from home and abroad

Continued from opposite page

"Sad, but probably the right decision for the future of the England cricket team."

Postscript in the aptly-named Daily Maverick, online newspaper in Pietersen's native South Africa.

"Let's be honest – Pietersen has disrupted every single dressing-room he's been in.

"Everyone was toeing the party line in front of the cameras about his relationship with Andy Flower and the rest of the team, but clearly there had been problems on the Australian tour.

"Captains and team directors have all suffered because of Pietersen's behaviour.

"No man is bigger than the game, and England have decided Kevin Pietersen got too big for his boots."

Former England captain Bob Willis

"It's a bold move when you go without one of your best players ... so there must have been things that were happening behind the scenes that Flower and Cook weren't amused with.

"It would be nice to know from the ECB, if you're going to axe one of your best players, what those things were.

"It is about man-management – however disruptive a player is, you can still try to manage most players.

"But history tells you with Kevin he hasn't really got a foot to stand on – whether it be back in Natal or Hampshire or Nottinghamshire, or Peter Moores or Andrew Strauss or Alastair Cook or Andy Flower, wherever he has been he has been a problem.

"Eventually English cricket has said 'enough is enough'.

"Some people believe in cutting out the virus and moving on; other people just say 'man-manage your best players'."

Former England skipper Nasser Hussain.

"Many people enjoyed watching him bat – a box-office cricketer – and now sadly it has all come to an end.

"When we were winning, we didn't hear anything.

"When we lose, everyone is pointing fingers at KP – and I find that unfair and unjust."

Ex-England captain Alec Stewart

"Cook and Flower haven't been able to manage him, and have to accept some responsibility.

"He was an individual ... I was one (as well).

"You can be an individual within the team but not an individual full stop – take it or leave it.

"They've taken it for long enough, and now they've said they'll leave it."

Former England star Geoff Boycott.



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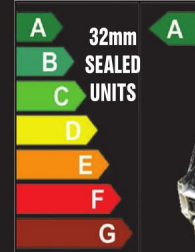
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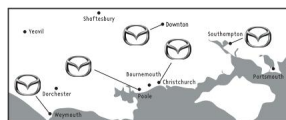


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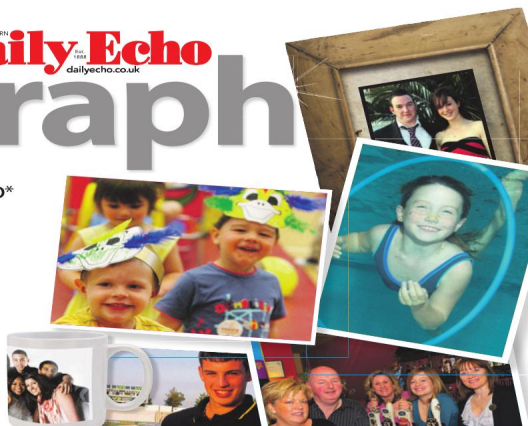


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SPORTS REPORTER



AS THE 2014 Winter Olympics dawn in Sochi, Hampshire's Trevor King will cast his mind back some 30 years to a different Games altogether.

The opening of the sporting extravaganza in Russia will spark vivid memories for the Southampton-born athlete, who is one of the rarest of breeds – a British Winter Olympian.

King has twice represented his country in the Games, firstly in Sarajevo, in 1984, and then four years later, in Calgary.

He did it the hard way too, competing in the biathlon, a mixture of cross-country skiing and rifle shooting that is one of the most demanding sports on the winter calendar.

King, however, was an ideal candidate for the event.

Joining the Army at 16, he was in the perfect environment to build his physical and mental strength, as well as to refine his gun skills.

His path to biathlon was not one he intended to take, though.

"I fell into it quite by accident," he explained. "I'd just joined the Army and they said 'who'd like to go away this winter and ski?' and I just put my hand up."

"But it turned out to be cross-country skiing. I didn't know that."

"I thought I'd be gliding downhill. I'd never even heard of biathlon!"

King, who was a Bombardier in the Royal Artillery, added: "I joined the Army thinking it was going to be a complete Army career, and not go into sport."

"I was what they call quite 'Army Barmy', or green. I loved it, I really enjoyed it."

But King took to biathlon instantly and soon began to work his way up through the British ranks, ending with his selection for the 1984 Olympics.

Very dangerous

It wasn't all snow and skiing, however. King also spent five months in Belfast, in 1980.

"I went there as a 20-year-old, in a place called Ardoyne – a staunch Catholic area – and saw quite a few riots," he said.

"It was during the Bobby Sands hunger strike days, so it was very volatile and very dangerous."

"It was very, very frightening. But you join the Army to serve your country, and you've got to go wherever they send you."

In the end, though, it was snowbound countries where King was being sent more and more.

Eventually, in 1984, he was dispatched to Yugoslavia.

"I think anybody going to the Olympic Games, their first one especially, it's an achievement just to get there," said King.

"It was completely fantastic, and a great, great experience."

He added: "I can remember feeling really proud the first time I was selected to perform for Great Britain."

"You put the tracksuit on and it's got 'Great Britain' on your back."

"It's an unbelievable feeling, because you've trained so hard for it."

"Even though Great Britain isn't a renowned skiing nation, once you put that Great Britain uniform on and know that you're representing your country it makes you feel really proud."

King competed in the 10km sprint event in Sarajevo, finishing in 51st place.

He says the memory of lining up for the race is still a vivid one, although it is not his only highlight from those Games.

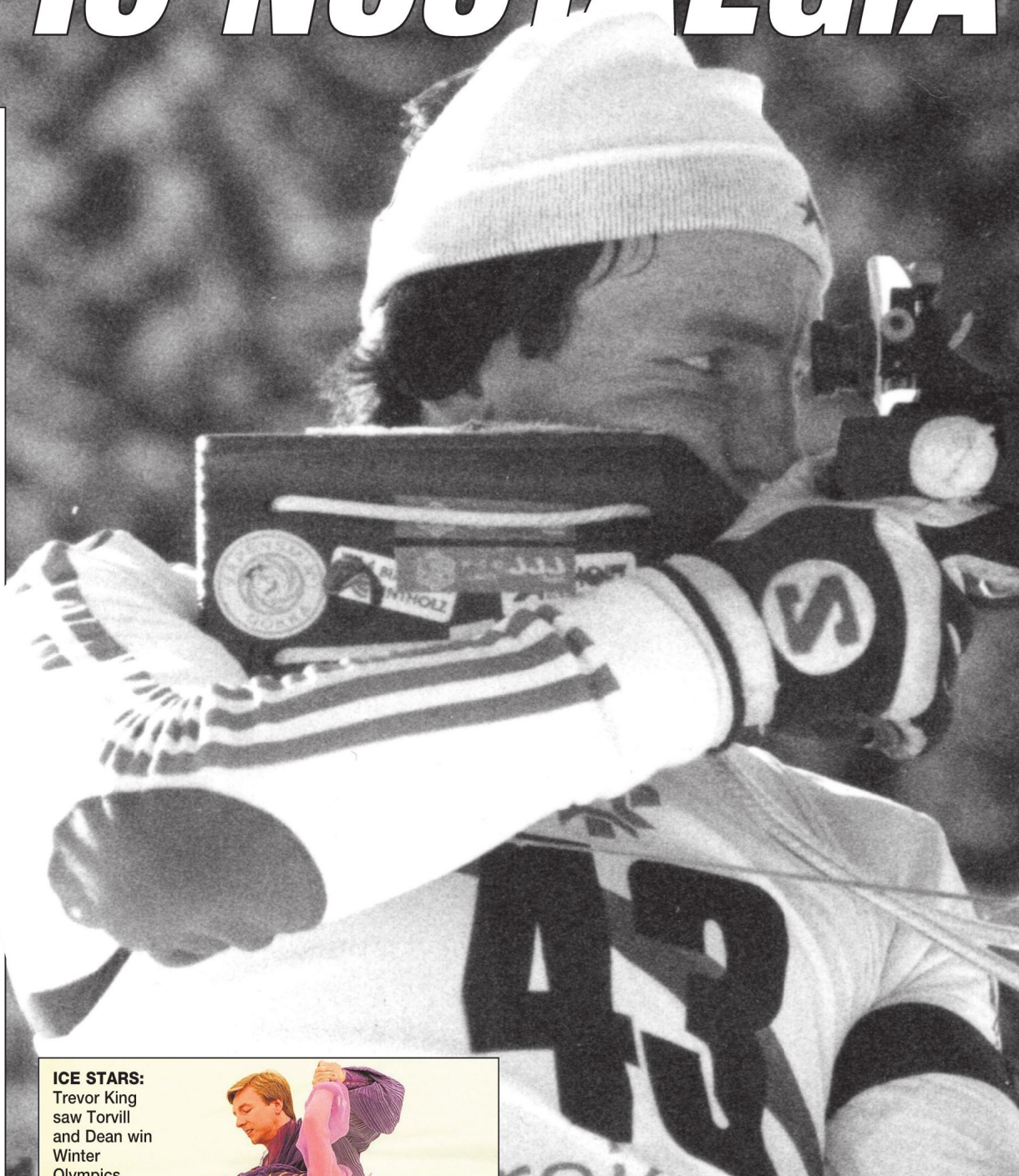
King, in fact, was present at one of the most iconic moments in British sporting history.

"In '84 I was lucky enough to be in the stadium when Torvill and Dean won their gold medal," he said.

"It was unbelievable. I had Princess Anne sat in the row in front of me, and obviously Torvill and Dean got their straight sixes."

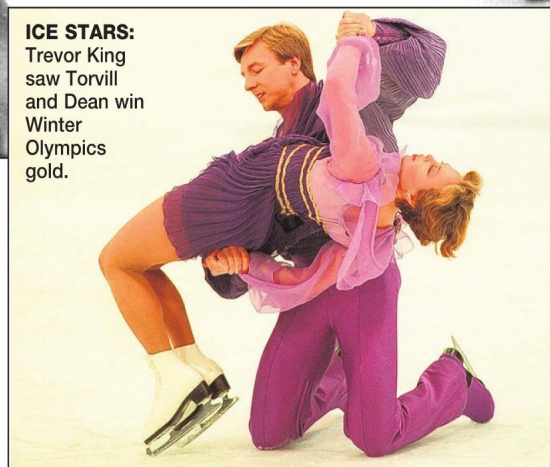
"We met them afterwards, and had a glass of champagne. It was a fantastic experience."

After the 1984 Olympics, King was released from regular



ICE STARS:

Trevor King saw Torvill and Dean win Winter Olympics gold.



duties with his Army unit to train full-time.

"I really sacrificed my potential to move up through the ranks for skiing," he said. "I didn't regret that, but I know that it held me back as regards Army progress."

As well as events, King would travel a lot for training, with the athletes being taken to Scotland and alpine European countries in order to hone their skills.

Even at home in Southampton, though, the practice wouldn't stop for the former Bellemoor School pupil.

"You'd do what they called roller skiing, which is basically a pair of training shoes that are in a binder on a short ski with wheels on – one wheel on the front and one on the back," he said.

"You basically find quiet roads – I used to go to the New Forest, out to Stoney Cross area – with a pair of ski sticks with points on the end and ski up and down for a couple of hours around there."

"We did get some weird looks. You don't see many people doing it nowadays, but 30-odd years ago it was completely bizarre."

National champion

Able to focus solely on his skiing, King achieved some outstanding results, becoming British national champion, a Scandinavian champion and finishing 15th in a World Cup.

He competed in three events at the 1988 Olympics – the 10km sprint, 20km, and the 4x7.5km relay, recording finishes of 61st, 47th and 13th respectively.

"I don't believe I ever achieved what I was capable of in the Games. After that top 15 (in the World Cup), I never re-

FOR SPORTING KING

Hamble man twice competed for Britain



GENERATION GAME: Trevor King in biathlon action at the 1984 Sarajevo Winter Olympics. Right: Olympic cycling daughter Dani at her Hamble home with mum and dad Lynn and Trevor.



"When I hear some of the coaches' names now, which are the athletes that I used to ski against, and I see people coming into the range and shooting, I can put myself back there.

"It's a really odd feeling. I have got a desire to go back to some of these old venues; Ruhpolding, in Germany, and Anterselva, in Italy, and even Canmore, in Canada, to revisit those great memories. I love the sport still. I think it is one of the best sports and one of the toughest sports, physically and mentally, in the world.

"I was very, very passionate, and I loved the sport, because it was so demanding, not just physically but mentally.

"It was so difficult to control those nerves, to lie down and perform an accurate shot when you've come into the range skiing your heart out – to control the weapon that would be trembling.

"It sort of grew on me and then it just captured my whole way of life."

King expects this year's Winter Olympics to again spark memories of his time competing at the Games, and he will be a keen watcher of the latest edition.

"I look at the schedule and in particular look for the biathlon races to watch every one," he said.

"I love every sport, because I like to see the emotional side of it – how the athletes look at the start line of whatever they're about to do, the ups and downs that you have to be able to cope with yourself.

Continued on page 42

achieved that, unfortunately," he said.

"Although I never thought when I ended a race that I hadn't given my best, I knew that I was capable of shooting better, so never achieved the best that I ultimately could have done."

While his results might not have been as strong as he would have hoped, King retains plenty of great memories from Calgary as well.

"With it being an English-speaking nation, that helped us to integrate immediately," he said.

"Obviously, it was more of a western attitude, as opposed to Sarajevo. It was different. I had my wife there. She didn't come to '84, although my brother and his wife did, which was great.

"We stayed in a place called Canmore, which was outside the Olympic Village, in Calgary itself, so we were detached. But, equally, it was a fantastic atmosphere. It was superb."

The 1988 Games are perhaps most famous for two things – one, the Jamaican bobsled team and, two, 'Eddie the Eagle'.

"I went to see Eddie compete, and we saw him afterwards," said King. "I guess that's an example of how things are different now.

"I think he was a plumber or a carpenter, or something like that, and he pretty much funded himself.

"Although his best jump was only 72 metres I think, in '88, which he actually did on the day and which was a great performance, the winners would be doing over 100 metres.

"I know nowadays there are the qualification rounds and things, so the likelihood of getting characters like him performing again are probably going to become less and less likely."

King is still in touch with some of his Olympic teammates, but his skiing career finished immediately after Calgary.

"It completely ended at that point," said King, who left the Army at that point and took up a job as a policeman.

"When I took my skis off after the last race of the Olympics, I never put them back on again for some years afterwards.

Not skied

"I did visit a friend of mine that went to the '88 Olympics some years afterwards where we stayed for a couple of days and I put a pair of cross-country skis on then, but that's the only time – I've not skied since '88.

"I do miss it. I watch the World Cups now on Eurosport, and they go to the same venues where I skied. It's a really strange feeling.

King has some magic memories

From page 41

"I try and think of the journey that each of those athletes has been on to actually get to that position, because, of course, most people see it as a snapshot on-the-day event, but I can see it as a four-year cycle, as a four-year minimum programme to have even got there, and it's really fascinating and intriguing."

While King has many great memories of the Games, ask him what his most treasured Olympic moment is and you'll find that it is not from the Winter edition at all.

"It's got to be the Summer ones, without doubt really," he said.

You see, the 53-year-old is the father of Dani King, the Hamble cyclist who won gold at London 2012 in the women's team pursuit, on what was dubbed 'Super Saturday'.

Among the 4,000 people in the raucous velodrome that afternoon was her dad.

"As a parent watching, it's totally different to being an athlete," said King.

"As an athlete, essentially you are in control of your own destiny."

"As a parent, you are totally out of control, and you hope and pray they are able to do as best they can at what they're doing."

"You can't have any bearing on that at all and, of course, in London 2012, when I was lucky enough to watch my daughter, Dani, win the gold medal, the moment she won it the initial sense was relief, but then it was overwhelming enjoyment. "But that word doesn't really describe the feeling – it's unbelievable."

After retiring three years ago from Hampshire Constabulary, where he was a firearms instructor, King began working as security manager at builders merchants Elliotts Brothers, in Northam.

It is a company that was already close to his heart, after their managing director, Stuart Elliott, had chosen to provide sponsorship to Dani as a teenager.

"Thankfully, he offered her help – race entries, anything that she needed," said King.

"Without him, and without Elliotts, I really believe she wouldn't have got to London 2012. Bike parts are so expensive. You can pay £200 for a seat post, and I couldn't afford that."

"Thankfully, Stuart and Elliotts helped to bridge that gap."

And, as a result, in two years' time, when the Summer Games head to Brazil, there is a strong chance that the King family will boast something quite incredible – two double Olympians.

2014 Sochi Winter Olympics: Final agony for snowboarder

BRAVE BILLY LOSES HIS GAMES GAMBLE



HIGH FLIER: Billy Morgan during the men's snowboard slopestyle semi-final.

BILLY Morgan finished tenth after becoming the first Sotonian to reach a Winter Olympic final.

The 24-year-old snowboarder from Shirley reached the Winter Olympics' first slopestyle final with a flawless first run in the semi-final, earning a winning score of 90.75.

He delighted the Sochi crowd on the first official day of the Games, using his repertoire of tricks to earn a place in the 12-man final before his second and final run.

But he was under pressure from the start of the final after falling on his first run.

Billy was eighth at midway and after an encouraging start to his second run, he finished with a best score of 39.75 when he attempted a 'Double 1080'.

"It was a case of go big or go home – I just thought **** it!" he said, before tweeting: "So happy with today. Getting through was crazy. Wanted to do the best run I could and did my best. Hope I made the GB proud."

"Riding today was crazy. Speaking to people about the finals saying that it was the best sporting show ever. Absolutely pumped."

Friends and family of Billy, pictured right, celebrated his appearance in the final by watching the action on the big screen at The View, the bar at the Southampton Sports Centre.

Dad Eddie said: "We're all really



EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER: Billy Morgan's dad, Eddie, reacts after watching his son make a mistake in the first round of the slopestyle final. Friends and family of Billy celebrated his appearance in the final by watching the action on the big screen at The View, the bar at the Southampton Sports Centre.

Daily Echo picture by Paul Collins
Order no: 17941348

proud of Billy, I didn't expect him to get so far. I've never been so nervous. His grandma, Shirley, couldn't bring herself to watch so imagine how he felt!

"But he won't be too bothered not to get a medal, he's very laid back and will still be enjoying himself out there."

What makes Billy's achievement even more impressive is that he competed without an anterior cruciate ligament after rupturing it

four months ago.

Physio Dean Cook said: "Back in September it looked like it wasn't going to happen so he's done brilliantly just to be at the Olympics, never mind make the final."

"It will take a while for what he's achieved to sink in."

Billy did not take up snowboarding until he was 14, transferring his acro-gymnastic and skateboarding skills to snow for the first time when he was 17.

Friend Mike Hurd, who has called for Billy's Olympic appearance to be rewarded with a snowdome in the

south, said: "If Billy was injury free going into the Games he would probably have done even better, but he's done us so proud."

"Other countries have a pool of 10-15 riders to choose from, which puts Billy's result and that of his teammate Jamie Nicholls [who finished sixth] in perspective."

"It's all about fine lines at the elite level but they'll inspire the next generation."

Gold went to Sage Kotsenburg (USA) with silver and bronze going to Staale Sandbech (Norway) and Mark McMorris (Canada).

MORE BILLY MORGAN REACTION IN MONDAY'S DAILY ECHO

Youth Football



KITTED OUT: It was a return to the traditional school blue and black striped kit for Testwood Sports College – courtesy of Serious Sport, the established Dummer-based sports kit suppliers and manufacturers, who presented the Totton team and support staff with a brand new strip for their ESFA Under-16 Cup quarter-final and for the remainder of the season.

Managing director Neil Rider was keen to reward the team for their success this season and said: “Testwood have played exceptionally well this season, especially getting to the latter stages of the national Under-16 Cup and I am delighted for Serious Sport to provide the boys with their new kit and a return to the traditional school colours of blue and black stripes.”

LATE EXIT MEANS CUP AGONY FOR TESTWOOD

IT WAS last minute heartbreak for the Testwood Sports College, whose hopes of a place in the English Schools' FA Under-16 Premier League Cup semi-finals were dashed in the dying seconds at Woking.

They lost 4-3 to the Winston Churchill School, having led 3-1 at the break – but were battered not only by the Surrey side, but also the elements as they defended into the teeth of a gale for the entire second half, **writes MIKE VIMPANY.**

Testwood were enjoying a run of nine straight wins in national and county competitions, so confidence was not an issue when they headed into the leafy, waterlogged lanes of cosmopolitan Surrey.

The presence of a partisan 200-plus crowd along the touchline provided an atmosphere the Testwood youngsters were not accustomed to – but the Totton teenagers silenced the home support when Ryan Lomax volleyed the visitors into an early lead.

Sadly, Testwood's advantage lasted barely a couple of minutes.

A dangerous inswinging corner was punched out, but hooked back into the goalmouth for Harry Chew to equaliser

GOSPORT & Fareham's English Schools SFA Under-15 Trophy quarter-final tie against South London, due to have been played in Dulwich today, has been postponed due to an unfit pitch and has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 1.

for Winston Churchill.

Both sides struggled in horrendous windy conditions, but Testwood managed to score twice more before half-time – and provide themselves with a two-goal cushion.

Matt Worthington, who caught the eye once again, curled a 25-yard free kick in to the near post to restore their advantage.

Before half-time, Ryan Hartley latched on to a defence-splitting ball from Dylan Gain to beat the WC goalkeeper with a fierce left-foot cross shot.

With a 3-1 lead intact, everything looked rosy for Testwood at half-time – but coach Pete Brailey knew his side would be up against it in the second half as Winston Churchill had a strong wind at their backs.

It didn't take long for Chew to trim Testwood's lead to 3-2 and set up a frenetic second half.

They held firm until the mid-point of

the period – Callum Stanton making a series of fine saves until Robert Atkinson equalised.

From that point on and with Testwood struggling to get hold of the ball, it looked like extra-time.

But in the dying seconds Winston Churchill sent a flick kick into the Testwood goalmouth, where Atkinson got the vital flick header to send the Woking school through to a home semi-final tie against either Shenfield (Chelmsford) or Whitgift.

Winston Churchill coach Danny McLeish conceded: “It was a very close game in all respects and also a very tense affair too.”

“It could have gone either way and it was unfortunate that there had to be a losing team.”

“Matt Worthington, in central midfield, was excellent, as was Testwood's central defender and Stanton, the goalkeeper, who pulled off a string of saves which were fantastic.”

The ESFA Cup run over – creditably after eight rounds – Testwood can now turn their attentions to the Hampshire Under-16 Cup.

They are through to the semi-finals – and a tie with either Swanmore or Mountbatten – after Worthington's late winner secured a 1-0 win over Wavell, from Aldershot.

New strategy for Saints girls

SOUTHAMPTON Saints Girls & Ladies FC has announced a strategy designed to secure the club as a major presence in the Central South of England.

It is entitled ‘Saints 2020+’ and it recognises that youth is the investment for the long term future.

“Southampton Saints G&L FC believe in creating successful players and teams by developing them physically, technically, psychologically and socially from an early age, and doing this all in a supportive, friendly, enjoyable and yet challenging environment,” said a club spokesman.

The club originated from Red

S t a r
Southampton
WFC, formed
in 1979,
played in the
H o m e
C o u n t i e s
L e a g u e
and later in the
S o u t h e r n
R e g i o n s
L e a g u e.

In 1991 the team won the Southern Region Division 1 title and subsequently became a founder member of the inaugural Women's National League.

At the start of the 2001/2002 season Saints merged with Southampton Football Club but were disappointed that, at the end of the 2004/2005 season, Southampton FC, its team relegated, reduced its commitment to women's football and the running of the team was passed back to Southampton Saints Girls and Ladies.

They now have seven teams ranging from U10s to ladies.

Saints' Ladies were Southampton Divisional FA Cup winners in 2012 and 2013, area finalist South West Combination League Cup 2012/2013 and won the Ladies FA Cup eight times, a record only recently overtaken by

Arsenal

Their U16s top their league having won all their games so far and with a +105 goal difference. They have won their league and cup double for the past five years.

Also among the club's achievements was winning an England FA Tesco Under-14 Championship.

U14s – Sitting top of their league their boast a +35 goal difference.

The U13s top the New Forest U14 league and won the U14 Plate Cup last season.

Last season also saw the U12s (then U11s) crowned national champions after they represent-



WINNERS:
Saints
U12 ESF
National
Champs.

ed the South of England at the ESF National Festival of Football in Coventry. They currently top the Winchester league with a +97 goal difference while U11s are second in the U12 league and the U10s top their league.

So what's in ‘Saints 2020+’? Pete Manson, Chair of the ‘Club's Strategy Working Group’ outlined the club's goals:

Now their new strategy sees them planning the introduction of mini soccer school, an U18 team, player development plans, dedicated keeper training, sports science internships, a club physio and a high profile club president.

They are also looking to secure a permanent home ground and a major sponsorship

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New stars get chance to shine

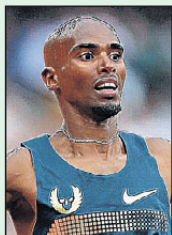
UP-and-coming athletes will have the chance to take centre stage in the absence of a host of star names from the Sainsbury's British Athletics Indoor Championships in Sheffield this weekend.

Mo Farah, Jessica Ennis-Hill, Christine Ohuruogu and Greg Rutherford are all missing from the event at the English Institute of Sport.

Farah's sole focus is on preparing for the Virgin Money London Marathon in April, Ennis-Hill is pregnant, Ohuruogu is having a lighter year following her exploits of 2013 when she broke the British 400 metres record in winning World Championship gold, while Rutherford's start to the season has been delayed by an unspecified injury suffered in training.

It means none of Great Britain's 2012 Olympic or 2013 world champions will be in action.

In their place James Dasaolu's 60m showdown with Dwain Chambers will



MO FARAH

take the lion's share of attention. The former added spice to the race by saying this week that he has "nothing to do" with his veteran

rival and the former drug cheat has been overtaken by the younger generation.

Dasaolu is the one in form, his 6.50 seconds season opener ranking him second in the world, with victory the goal this weekend to seal a place on the team for next month's World Indoor Championships in Sopot, Poland.

Also in action at the EIS is Holly Bleasdale, another a strong medal hope for Sopot, who lies third in the pole vault world rankings with 4.71m.

Luke Cutts, the new British record holder in the men's event, will look to prove his 5.83m clearance from last month was no fluke and further enhance his medal credentials.

Twenty-year-old Scot Laura Muir leads the world 800m rankings with 2:00.94, with Jenny Meadows, looking to prove her best days are not behind her after two years of injury troubles, among her opponents.

Katarina Johnson-Thompson, 21, is set to carry British pentathlon hopes in Poland in the absence of Ennis-Hill. She competes in her first senior UK Indoor Championships, going in the high jump on Saturday and long jump and 60m hurdles on Sunday.

South East Schools Inter-Counties HANTS ATHLETES



SPRINT FINISH: Runners in the junior boys age group race for the line.

Order no: 17907551

THERE was great success for Hampshire's athletes at the South East Schools Inter-Counties Cross Country Championship at Southampton Sports Centre.

Southampton AC's Mahamed Mahamed (14.39) cruised to victory in the Intermediate Boys race with George Butler (15.23) claiming third place and Ethan Bevis (15.33) finishing fourth, helping their team to victory in the team competition.

Stephen Simpson (18.48) came in second place in the Senior Boys as his Hampshire team finished second in the age group.

The county's Senior Girls topped their standings as Rebecca Howard (12.58) crossed the line in second. Charlotte Chalwin (fourth) and Eloise Milbourn (fifth) also helped them to an impressive finish with times of 13 minutes 5 seconds and 13 minutes 7 seconds respectively.

The Intermediate and Junior Girls both came in third in their respective team tables and the Junior Boys were only bettered by Berkshire.

RESULTS ... RESULTS ... RESULTS ... RESULTS ... RESULTS ... RESULTS ...

SENIOR BOYS

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| 1 Scott Halsted (Berks) | 18:35 |
| 2 Stephen Simpson | 18:48 |
| 3 Chris Olley (Kent) | 18:54 |
| 4 Benjamin Pridle (Berks) | 18:56 |
| 5 Will Fuller (Kent) | 19:01 |

OTHER HAMPSHIRE FINISHERS

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| 9 Brendan O'Connor | 19:19 |
| 10 Tom Starling | 19:25 |
| 14 Stuart McCallum | 19:36 |
| 15 Ollie Butler | 19:40 |
| 19 Lucas Clements | 19:53 |
| 22 Richard Allen | 20:05 |
| 26 Thomas MacSwayne | 20:16 |
| 27 Calum Upton | 20:17 |
| 31 Ben Healy | 20:21 |
| 32 Billy Hancock | 20:22 |
| 37 Matthew Smith | 20:35 |
| 38 Peter Ellis | 20:38 |
| 39 Abdi Mahamed | 20:41 |
| 40 Daniel Ayres | 20:43 |
| 45 Brogan McCawley | 20:55 |
| 53 Luca Chiossone | 21:20 |
| 57 Richard Fernando | 21:46 |

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 59 Matthew Cook | 21:59 |
| 62 Ben Watson | 22:27 |

TEAMS

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| 1 Berkshire | .62 |
| 2 Hampshire | .69 |
| 3 Kent | .77 |
| 4 Surrey | .111 |
| 5 Hampshire B | .175 |
| 6 Kent B | .241 |
| 7 Hampshire C | .264 |

SENIOR GIRLS

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| 1 Phoebe Law (Surrey) | 11:55 |
| 2 Rebecca Howard | 12:58 |
| 3 Sophie Foreman (Surrey) | 13:02 |
| 4 Charlotte Chalwin | 13:05 |
| 5 Eloise Milbourn | 13:07 |

OTHER HAMPSHIRE FINISHERS

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 8 Gemma Wildash | 13:20 |
| 11 Bethany Gibson | 13:24 |
| 17 Freya Davies | 13:39 |
| 18 Catlin Stewart | 13:40 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| 22 Carmen Sanchez Toribio | 13:52 |
| 25 Carla Plowden-Roberts | 14:00 |
| 27 Frances Arnott | 14:05 |
| 31 Lauren McCarthy | 14:12 |
| 37 Jenny Helyer | 14:52 |
| 40 Rosie Upton | 15:03 |
| 45 Annabelle Marsh | 15:28 |
| 48 Isabel Wallace | 15:32 |
| 53 Nicola Mead | 15:51 |
| 55 Imogen Emmett | 15:58 |
| 56 Georgiana Lavery | 15:59 |

TEAMS

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| 1 Hampshire | .47 |
| 2 Surrey | .52 |
| 3 Kent | .158 |
| 4 Hampshire B | .160 |
| 5 Surrey B | .167 |
| 6 Berkshire | .228 |
| 7 Hampshire C | .297 |
| 8 Sussex | .29 |

INTERMEDIATE BOYS

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 1 Mahamed Mahamed | 14:39 |
|-------------------------|-------|

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| 2 Nathan Gibson (Surrey) | 15:20 |
| 3 George Butler | 15:23 |
| 4 Ethan Bevis | 15:33 |
| 5 Rian McCawley (Surrey) | 15:35 |

OTHER HAMPSHIRE FINISHERS

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| 7 Jake Cvetkovic | 15:47 |
| 8 Callum Cleary | 15:50 |
| 10 Luke Powell | 15:55 |
| 11 Samuel Costley | 15:57 |
| 15 Michael Iliott | 16:09 |
| 19 Bonnor Sullivan | 16:15 |
| 22 James Beeks | 16:22 |
| 23 Ed Mahoney | 16:22 |
| 24 Sam Metcalf | 16:23 |
| 34 Dylan Bardell | 16:41 |
| 37 Charlie Mills | 16:43 |
| 40 Samuel Beckett | 16:49 |
| 45 Bryn Smith | 17:02 |
| 52 Ben Reed | 17:13 |
| 60 Austin Law | 17:30 |
| 64 James Heneghan | 17:43 |
| 65 Austin Gwilliam | 17:45 |
| 69 Matthew Glass | 17:53 |
| 71 Andrew Peet | 18:03 |

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 72 Joshua Prest | 18:11 |
| 76 Dan Chalwin | 18:49 |

TEAMS

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| 1 Hampshire | .33 |
| 2 Surrey | .87 |
| 3 Hampshire B | .114 |
| 4 Sussex | .140 |
| 5 Berkshire | .150 |
| 6 Kent | .175 |
| 7 Surrey B | .250 |
| 8 Hampshire C | .268 |
| 9 Sussex B | .316 |
| 10 Berkshire B | .342 |
| 11 Kent B | .355 |
| 12 Hampshire D | .417 |

INTERMEDIATE GIRLS

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| 1 Grace Goddard (Berks) | 12:15 |
| 2 Morven Goodrum (Berks) | 12:22 |
| 3 Hope Goddard (Berks) | 12:33 |
| 4 Lucy Wildash | 12:47 |
| 5 Pippa Monk (Surrey) | 12:56 |

SPORTS STORY TO TELL? CALL SPORTS EDITOR

Cross Country Championship

RUN INTO FORM



OPENING BURST: The junior girls race gets under way.
Daily Echo pictures by Matt Watson Order no: 17907556



Order no: 17907522



Order no: 17907573

RESULTS ... RESULTS ... RESULTS ... RESULTS ... RESULTS ... RESULTS ...

OTHER HAMPSHIRE FINISHERS

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| 7 Katie Estlea | 13:05 |
| 16 Anna Sharp | 13:24 |
| 19 Allegra Whittome | 13:36 |
| 26 Charlotte Dannatt | 13:43 |
| 28 Alana Spiers | 13:45 |
| 29 Evie Grice | 13:48 |
| 39 Holly Collier | 14:04 |
| 40 Ellie Czura | 14:04 |
| 44 Emma Jones | 14:12 |
| 58 Katie Butler | 14:41 |
| 62 Lucy Robinson | 14:54 |
| 64 Klara Lyne | 14:55 |
| 67 Libby Stevenson | |
| 73 Hannah Jacobs | 15:43 |
| 76 Claire Read | 16:05 |
| 77 Briallen Taylor | 16:07 |
| 78 Harriet Todd | 16:16 |

TEAMS

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| 1 Berkshire | 32 |
| 2 Surrey | 85 |
| 3 Hampshire | 100 |
| 4 Sussex | 147 |
| 5 Berkshire B | 171 |

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| 6 Surrey B | 188 |
| 7 Kent | 243 |
| 8 Sussex B | 272 |
| 9 Hampshire B | 272 |
| 10 Kent B | 347 |
| 11 Sussex C | 387 |
| 12 Hampshire C | 435 |

JUNIOR BOYS

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| 1 Chey Kemp (Berkshire) | 11:22 |
| 2 Matthew Rawlings (Berks) | 11:28 |
| 3 Harry Boyd (Surrey) | 11:32 |

OTHER HAMPSHIRE FINISHERS

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 4 Zakariya Mahamed | 11:35 |
| 5 Robbie Coupland | 11:37 |
| 7 Alex Foster | 11:56 |
| 16 Ted Yeates | 12:08 |
| 18 Lachlan Wellington | 12:11 |
| 30 Billy Smith | 12:28 |
| 31 Harry Richardson | 12:28 |
| 37 James Fleming | 12:33 |
| 44 Samuel Bramwell | 13:05 |
| 48 Archie Ives | 13:20 |

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| 50 Sean Pocknee | 13:31 |
| 53 Daniel Brookling | 13:45 |

TEAMS

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| 1 Berkshire | 48 |
| 2 Hampshire | 80 |
| 3 Kent | 102 |
| 4 Surrey | 104 |
| 5 Berkshire B | 176 |
| 6 Kent B | 228 |
| 7 Sussex | 261 |
| 8 Hampshire B | 263 |
| 9 Surrey B | 281 |
| 10 Hampshire C | 401 |
| 11 Hampshire D | 475 |

JUNIOR GIRLS

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| 1 Yasmin Austridge (Kent) | 10:17 |
| 2 Mollie O'Sullivan (Surrey) | 10:22 |
| 3 Genevieve Allan (Kent) | 10:27 |
| 4 Claudia Lance-Jones (Surrey) | 10:29 |
| 5 Rebecca Poole | 10:32 |

OTHER HAMPSHIRE FINISHERS

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| 13 Elizabeth Hedley | 10:39 |
| 15 Maddie Deadman | 10:40 |
| 18 Stacey Burrows | 10:48 |
| 22 Maisie Grice | 10:58 |
| 23 Elizabeth Rose | 11:01 |
| 25 Lizzie Squibbs | 11:03 |
| 26 Lucy Pygott | 11:04 |
| 29 Holly Powell | 11:06 |
| 34 Rebecca Bullock | 11:11 |
| 36 Hannah Barnard | 11:11 |
| 40 Emily Coulson | 11:16 |
| 44 Catherine Darlison | 11:20 |
| 45 Bobby Davis | 11:20 |
| 47 Anya Pigden | 11:22 |
| 59 Ella Heathcote Hobbins | 11:36 |
| 64 Phoebe Roberts | 11:42 |
| 65 Tayla Wegg | 11:43 |
| 67 Natasha Miles | 11:44 |
| 73 Alice Nichols | 11:47 |
| 74 Grace Reavey | 11:48 |
| 84 Freya Alsop | 12:08 |
| 85 Matilda Cole | 12:10 |
| 86 Abbie Dennison | 12:10 |
| 89 Ruby Neville | 12:14 |
| 91 Jessica Warwick | 12:22 |
| 92 Louise Ridgley | 12:23 |

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| 93 Ella Windle | 12:25 |
| 94 Phoebe Jackson | 12:29 |
| 96 Holly Curran | 12:36 |
| 98 Isla Allen | 12:44 |
| 99 Louise Cole | 12:46 |
| 100 Jemima Weston | 12:48 |
| 101 Aimee Coppin | 12:51 |
| 102 Amber Clare | 12:51 |
| 103 Camille McMillan | 12:51 |

TEAMS

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| 1 Kent | 52 |
| 2 Surrey | 63 |
| 3 Hampshire | 96 |
| 4 Berkshire | 118 |
| 5 Hampshire B | 190 |
| 6 Kent B | 200 |
| 7 Sussex | 258 |
| 8 Berkshire B | 292 |
| 9 Surrey B | 292 |
| 10 Hampshire C | 324 |
| 11 Kent C | 350 |
| 12 Sussex B | 443 |
| 13 Hampshire D | 466 |
| 14 Hampshire E | 545 |

Glory for another tennis Brit

BRITISH number two Dan Evans produced a major shock at the PBZ Zagreb Indoors as he beat Germany's Philipp Kohlschreiber to reach his first ATP Tour semi-final.

The 23-year-old, pictured below - a lucky-loser entrant in Croatia thanks to Radek Stepanek's withdrawal - raised eyebrows on his way to reaching his first quarter-final on tour by beating Jan Hajek and Michael Berrer in the early rounds.

The Birmingham player went one better on Friday, making the last four as he recovered from the loss of the second set to former world number 12 Kohlschreiber to pull off a 6-4 2-6 6-4 victory.

Evans, ranked 147th in the world, had watched Kohlschreiber save the first two match points but held his nerve to clinch the surprise win in exactly two hours.

He will challenge the winner of Tommy Haas' last-eight showdown with

Andrey Kuznetsov for a place in the final, where either Marin Cilic or Bjorn Phau would stand between him and the title.



Evans was recently left out of Britain's victorious Davis Cup team by captain Leon Smith after deciding to return home immediately following his elimination from the Australian Open. Without Evans, the GB team still went on to knock out the United States and reach the quarter-finals.

Evans can expect to rise to around number 124 in the ATP rankings and is the first British player, other than Andy Murray, to reach the last four of an ATP World Tour tournament since James Ward did so at the Aegon Championships in June 2011.

Marin Cilic kept alive his chances of winning the tournament for the fourth time in six years by beating his close friend Ivan Dodic.

Fifth seed Cilic needed just over 90 minutes to edge out fellow Croatian Dodig 7-5 6-4 in Zagreb, clinching his 18th win from his last 19 matches at the ATP World Tour tournament in the process.

In yesterday's last quarter-final, Tommy Haas beat Andrey Kuznetsov 7-6 (8-6) 6-4 victory and play Evans in the last four.

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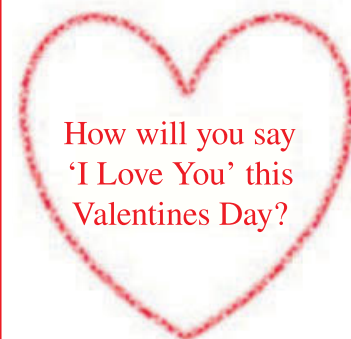
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Barclays Premier League

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|----------------|---|
| A. Villa..... | 0 | West Ham..... | 2 |
| HT 0-0 | | Nolan 46,48 | |
| Chelsea..... | 3 | Newcastle..... | 0 |
| Hazard 27,34,63 pen | | Att 36,261 | |
| HT 2-0 | | Att 41,387 | |
| Crystal P..... | 3 | W.B.A..... | 1 |
| Ince 15 | | Thievly 46 | |
| Ledley 27 | | | |
| Chamakh 69 pen | | | |
| HT 2-0 | | Att 24,501 | |
| Liverpool..... | 5 | Arsenal..... | 1 |
| Skrテル 1,10 | | Arteta 69 pen | |
| Sterling 17,52 | | | |
| Sturridge 20 | | | |
| HT 4-0 | | Att 44,701 | |
| Norwich..... | 0 | Man City..... | 0 |
| HT 0-0 | | Att 26,832 | |
| SAINTS..... | 2 | Stoke..... | 2 |
| Lambert 6 | | Odemwingle 38 | |
| S Davis 41 | | Crouch 44 | |
| HT 2-2 | | Att 27,987 | |
| Sunderlnd..... | 0 | Hull..... | 2 |
| | | Long 16 | |
| | | Jelavic 62 | |
| HT 0-1 | | | |
| Swansea..... | L | Cardiff..... | L |
| HT L-L | | | |

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | W | D | L | F | A | Pt |
|-----------|----|----|---|---|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| Chelsea | 25 | 11 | 2 | 0 | 28 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 19 | 11 | 56 |
| Arsenal | 25 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 22 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 26 | 20 | 55 |
| Man City | 25 | 11 | 0 | 1 | 42 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 26 | 18 | 54 |
| Liverpool | 25 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 38 | 9 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 25 | 21 | 50 |
| Everton | 24 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 23 | 10 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 14 | 15 | 45 |
| Spurs | 24 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 14 | 18 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 17 | 14 | 44 |
| Man Utd | 24 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 16 | 10 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 23 | 19 | 40 |
| Newcastle | 25 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 17 | 15 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 15 | 19 | 37 |
| SAINTS | 25 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 21 | 16 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 15 | 13 | 36 |
| Hull | 25 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 16 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 9 | 21 | 27 |
| A. Villa | 25 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 12 | 21 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 15 | 15 | 27 |
| Stoke | 25 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 16 | 13 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 10 | 27 | 26 |
| Crystal P | 25 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 13 | 15 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 5 | 19 | 26 |
| West Ham | 25 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 15 | 19 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 11 | 14 | 25 |
| Norwich | 25 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 11 | 11 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 26 | 25 |
| Swansea | 24 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 21 | 20 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 15 | 24 |
| Sunderlnd | 25 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 13 | 21 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 12 | 17 | 24 |
| W.B.A. | 25 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 14 | 14 | 1 | 6 | 6 | 15 | 23 | 23 |
| Cardiff | 24 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 12 | 18 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 23 | 21 |
| Fulham | 24 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 14 | 25 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 8 | 28 | 19 |

SkyBet Championship

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | W | D | L | F | A | Pt |
|------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|
| Leicester | 30 | 11 | 3 | 1 | 31 | 15 | 10 | 1 | 4 | 23 | 15 | 67 |
| Burnley | 29 | 9 | 6 | 0 | 25 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 20 | 15 | 56 |
| Q.P.R. | 28 | 11 | 3 | 1 | 23 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 13 | 11 | 56 |
| Derby City | 29 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 27 | 20 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 30 | 20 | 52 |
| Nottm For | 29 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 29 | 15 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 18 | 15 | 51 |
| Reading | 30 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 30 | 16 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 17 | 19 | 47 |
| Ipswich | 30 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 24 | 15 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 19 | 19 | 44 |
| Brighton | 29 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 20 | 13 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 11 | 12 | 43 |
| Blackburn | 30 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 21 | 11 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 16 | 24 | 43 |
| Leeds Utd | 29 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 26 | 15 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 17 | 23 | 42 |
| Wigan | 28 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 21 | 14 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 14 | 40 |
| Middlesbro | 30 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 23 | 12 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 18 | 23 | 39 |
| Huddersfld | 29 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 24 | 15 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 14 | 23 | 37 |
| Watford | 28 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 19 | 16 | 3 | 8 | 3 | 23 | 21 | 35 |
| CHERRIES | 29 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 19 | 18 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 17 | 31 | 35 |
| Blackpool | 30 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 15 | 15 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 13 | 27 | 34 |
| Sheff Wed | 28 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 23 | 15 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 13 | 19 | 33 |
| Birmingham | 29 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 19 | 19 | 6 | 2 | 6 | 17 | 18 | 33 |
| Bolton | 29 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 18 | 16 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 16 | 31 | 29 |
| Doncaster | 30 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 17 | 19 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 9 | 26 | 29 |
| Millwall | 29 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 18 | 24 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 11 | 33 | 26 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|----|-----------------|---|---|----|----|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Charlton | 28 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 11 | 16 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 12 | 22 | 24 |
| Barnsley | 28 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 18 | 27 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 9 | 20 | 22 |
| Yeovil | 28 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 9 | 17 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 16 | 20 | 20 |
| Barnsley | 28 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 9 | 17 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 16 | 20 | 20 |
| O Grady 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cywka 74 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HT 1-0 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Blackpool..... | 1 | Nottm For..... | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Keogh 86 | | Lascelles 45 | | | | | | | | | | |
| HT 0-1 | | Att 15,105 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bolton..... | 2 | CHERRIES..... | 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| Lee 21 | | Grabban 34 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jutkiewicz 32 | | Francis 66 | | | | | | | | | | |
| HT 2-1 | | Att 14,336 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Brighton..... | 1 | Doncaster..... | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| Ullola 75 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HT 0-0 | | Att 27,009 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Burnley..... | 3 | Millwall..... | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Ings 29,62 | | Woolford 27 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Marney 45 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HT 2-1 | | Att 11,502 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Charlton..... | 0 | Birmingham..... | 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Macheda 22,79 | | | | | | | | | | |
| HT 0-1 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Huddersfld..... | 1 | Wigan..... | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| Clayton 85 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HT 0-0 | | Att 15,576 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Leicester..... | 2 | Watford..... | 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| James 43 | | Forestier 9 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Drinkwater 90 | | Murray 41 | | | | | | | | | | |
| HT 1-2 | | Att 23,635 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Middlesbro..... | 0 | Blackburn..... | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| HT 0-0 | | Att 14,965 | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | |
|--------------|---|----------------|---|
| Reading..... | 0 | Sheff Wed..... | 2 |
| | | Maguire 10 pen | |
| | | Alobe 58 | |
| | | Att 19,772 | |
| HT 0-1 | | | |
| Yeovil..... | 1 | Leeds Utd..... | 2 |
| Miller 32 | | McCormack 46 | |
| | | Warnock 62 | |
| HT 1-0 | | Att 7,984 | |

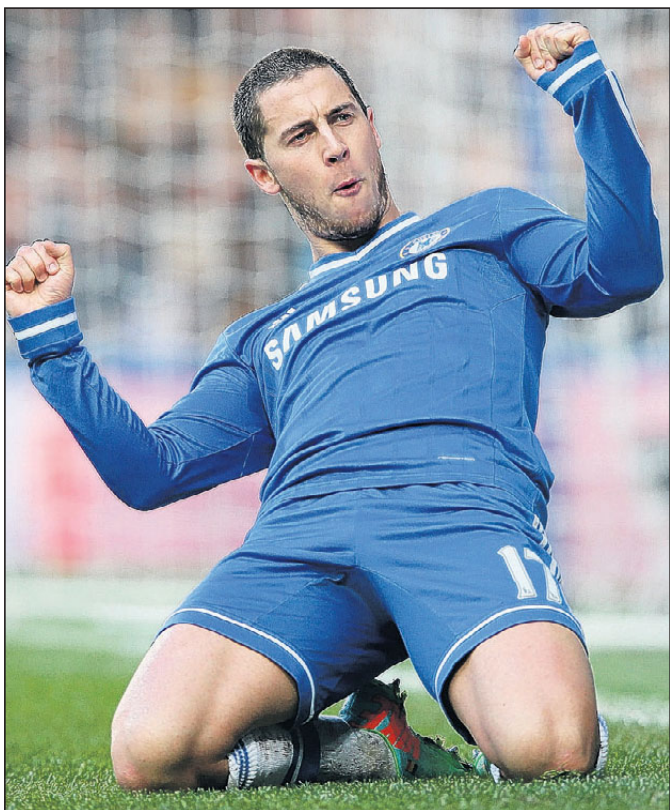
SkyBet League One

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------|---|
| Bradford..... | 3 | Crewe..... | 3 |
| Hanson 58 | | Ikpeazu 12,54 | |
| Jones 59,84 | | Pogba 78 | |
| HT 0-1 | | Att 13,343 | |
| Brentford..... | P | Crawley..... | P |
| Postponed - due to waterlogged pitch. | | | |
| Carlisle..... | 1 | Gillingham..... | 2 |
| Legge 90 og | | Pigott 44 | |
| | | McDonald 88 | |
| | | Att 3,581 | |
| HT 0-1 | | | |
| Colchester..... | P | Rotherham..... | P |
| Postponed - due to waterlogged pitch. | | | |
| Leyton O..... | 1 | Peterboro..... | 2 |
| Mooney 70 | | Assombalonga 88 | |
| | | Rowe 90 | |
| | | Att 6,717 | |
| HT 0-0 | | | |
| Notts Cnty..... | 3 | Coventry..... | 0 |
| Mullins 13 | | | |
| Spencer 33 | | | |
| Sheehan 87 pen | | | |
| HT 2-0 | | Att 8,149 | |
| Oldham..... | 1 | Bristol C..... | 1 |
| Philliskirk 5 | | Flint 10 | |
| HT 1-1 | | Att 3,822 | |
| Port Vale..... | 2 | Swindon..... | 3 |
| Loft 20 | | Ranger 51 | |
| Pope 42 | | Pritchard 65 | |
| | | Byrne 69 | |
| | | Att 5,306 | |
| HT 2-0 | | | |
| Sheff Utd..... | 2 | Shrewsbry..... | 0 |
| Flynn 11 | | | |
| Scougal 17 | | | |
| HT 2-0 | | Att 15,987 | |
| Stevenage..... | P | Wolves..... | P |
| Postponed - due to waterlogged pitch. | | | |
| Tranmere..... | 1 | Preston..... | 2 |
| Taylor 45 | | Garnier 18,52 | |
| HT 1-1 | | Att 5,895 | |
| Walsall..... | 0 | M K Dons..... | 3 |
| | | McLeod 30,70 | |
| | | Reeves 44 pen | |
| | | Att 4,116 | |
| HT 0-2 | | | |

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | W | D | L | F | A | Pt |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Brentford | 29 | 12 | 1 | 2 | 30 | 12 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 21 | 15 | 63 |
| Wolves | 29 | 11 | 3 | 2 | 28 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 21 | 11 | 61 |
| Leyton O | 29 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 27 | 12 | 10 | 4 | 2 | 33 | 16 | 60 |
| Preston | 29 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 20 | 16 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 20 | 12 | 55 |
| Rotherham | 29 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 27 | 25 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 24 | 13 | 51 |
| Peterboro | 29 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 20 | 15 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 30 | 26 | 48 |
| Walsall | 30 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 16 | 18 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 20 | 11 | 46 |
| Swindon | 30 | 10 | 1 | 3 | 31 | 17 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 18 | 24 | 44 |
| M K Dons | 29 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 24 | 17 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 20 | 25 | 39 |
| Port Vale | 28 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 22 | 19 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 19 | 26 | 39 |
| Gillingham | 31 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 23 | 20 | 4 | 1 | 10 | 19 | 33 | 38 |
| Coventry | 29 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 32 | 29 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 25 | 22 | 37 |
| Bradford | 29 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 35 | 17 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 16 | 20 | 35 |
| Colchester | 26 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 18 | 17 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 17 | 17 | 34 |
| Oldham | 30 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 17 | 19 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 17 | 23 | 34 |
| Crawley | 25 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 13 | 15 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 16 | 19 | 31 |
| Tranmere | 30 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 18 | 29 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 15 | 23 | 31 |
| Crewe | 30 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 19 | 21 | 2 | 3 | 10 | 14 | 36 | 31 |
| Notts Cnty | 31 | 7 | 1 | 7 | 24 | 19 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 16 | 31 | 30 |
| Carlisle | 29 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 23 | 28 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 10 | 23 | 30 |
| Sheff Utd | 28 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 20 | 14 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 8 | 24 | 29 |
| Bristol C | 30 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 22 | 23 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 20 | 26 | 28 |
| Shrewsbry | 30 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 13 | 16 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 15 | 25 | 27 |
| Stevenage | 27 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 15 | 19 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 12 | 26 | 25 |
| *Coventry deducted 10 points for entering administration | | | | | | | | | | | | |

SkyBet League Two

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|---|
| AFC Wimbledon 0 | Rochdale..... | 3 | |
| | Hogan 66,79,82 | | |
| | Att 3,837 | | |
| HT 0-0 | | | |
| Bristol R..... | 1 | Oxford Utd..... | 1 |
| O Toole 84 | | Constable 10 | |
| HT 0-1 | | Att 6,493 | |
| Dagenham..... | 0 | Hartlepool..... | 2 |
| | | Williams 69 | |
| | | Monkhouse 89 | |
| | | Att 3,357 | |
| HT 0-0 | | | |
| Exeter..... | 1 | POMPEY..... | 1 |
| Sercombe 90 | | Jervis 9 | |
| HT 0-1 | | | |
| Mansfield..... | 2 | Southend..... | 1 |
| Clucas 36 | | Leonard 90 | |
| Jennings 65 | | | |
| HT 1-0 | | Att 3,055 | |
| Morecambe..... | 0 | Burton Albion..... | 1 |
| | | Ismail 72 | |
| HT 0-0 | | Att 1,478 | |
| Northmptn..... | 0 | Plymouth..... | 2 |
| | | Reid 5 | |
| | | Alessandra 39 | |
| | | Att 4,845 | |
| HT 0-2 | | | |



Chelsea's Eden Hazard celebrates after scoring the second goal of the game during their English Premier League soccer match between Chelsea and Newcastle United.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Scunthorpe..... | 1 |
|-----------------|---|